The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1886.

The Week.

THE amendment proposed by the Senate Finance Committee to the Morrison surplus resolution deprives that measure of its power for producing mischief. The amendment fixes a maximum of $130,000,000 and a minimum of $110,000,000 for the Treasury reserve, and authorizes the Secretary to suspend the operation of the act in cases of emergency. If the resolution passes in this shape, it will be merely the expression of "a pious opinion" on the part of Congress that the surplus should not under ordinary circumstances exceed $130,000,000 nor fall below $110,000,000. There is no objection to the resolution as thus amended. The objection to it as passed by the House lay in its mandatory and inflexible cast, no discretion being allowed to the head of the Treasury Department to vary it according to circumstances. In a similar exigency in the year 1837 President Van Buren was obliged to call Congress in extra session to repeal a resolution providing for a distribution of the surplus. A bill had been passed in 1836 providing that all the money in the Treasury exceeding a certain fixed sum should be "deposited" with the several States in fixed instalments. The first instalment was paid in January, 1837, the second in April, the third in June, when suddenly the panic of 1837 set in, and the Treasury was left without means to pay the current expenses of the Government. The fourth instalment, which was due in October, was never paid. On the contrary, Congress was hastily reassembled in order to repeal the surplus resolution, and was reduced to the mortifying expedient of borrowing money in time of peace to meet its ordinary expenses. Nor did the borrowing cease for five years afterwards.

The Morrison resolution in its financial aspects differs in nowise from the resolution of 1836. The one provided for the distribution of the surplus among the States. The other provides for its distribution among the bondholders. As regards the situation of the Treasury and its ability to cope with an emergency the two run to the same end. But there was much more plausibility to support the resolution of 1836 than there is in the present instance, because in the former case the Government was out of debt, and was overflowing with money, and it might be reasonably concluded that no circumstances of a commercial character would occur which would produce a deficit in place of a surplus for a Government which had no interest to pay, and no war or other extraordinary expenditure in prospect. The result gave new force and meaning to the adage that in the business world it is the unexpected that happens. Nothing could have been more unexpected than the panic of 1837. To those who look back at it of course it seems the most natural thing in the world. But if it had seemed so to those who were looking forward, and who were in the midst of the apparent bounding prosperity of the time, it would never have taken place, because they would have avoided the follies which produced it. Quite certain is it that if the Treasury had kept the $37,000,000 which it distributed to the States in 1837, it would have ridden the storm in security. National bankruptcy, signalized by an issue of Treasury notes which were not redeemed until 1842, was the climax of the surplus resolution passed in the last year of Jackson's Administration.

Gen. Logan showed little wisdom in taking his stand against an investigation of the charges that Senator Payne's election was procured through bribery, but his Republican assailants made a great mistake in charging him with cowardice and a desire to cover up his action so far as possible. The Illinois Senator's convictions are often wrong, but he always has at least the courage to assert them, and he was quite justified in his indignation against the Republican politicians and editors in Ohio who accused him of having been bought to oppose an investigation. The real significance of these personal attacks upon Logan and the equally personal attacks in his reply last week is the evidence which they furnish of the growing dissensions among the Republican leaders. The various factions in the party are so intent upon "killing off" everybody capable of being a Presidential candidate who does not belong to their side that, at the present rate, the work of beating whoever may get the nomination in 1888 will be largely accomplished without the necessity of any help from the Democrats.

The following tale, supposed to have a bearing upon Senator Beck's bill prohibiting members of Congress from appearing as counsel in behalf of railroad corporations before the Supreme Court of the United States, is communicated to us in confidence. We communicate it to the public in the same spirit. The receiver of a once bankrupt but now reorganized and highly successful Western railroad, soon after entering upon his trust, found himself in disagreement with another connecting and powerful railroad corporation in respect to the interpretation of certain contracts. As the parties were unable to agree, the matter, which was one of great importance to the stock and bondholders of the bankrupt road, was taken by the receiver into court for adjudication. The tactics of the opposition from the first were evidently not so much to depend on the merits of the case as to procrastinate, on the theory that the receivership could not last indefinitely, and that the receiver, sooner or later, would consent to compromise or yield in order to settle and terminate his trust. The case, although the proceedings were uniformly in favor of the receiver, was accordingly delayed and appealed, until it reached the United States Supreme Court, where, after the further and usual long delay, the time came for its hearing, and where, under ordinary circumstances, it might be expected that the litigation would terminate. When the docket was called, however, a Senator of the United States who was not previously known to the receiver to have any connection with the case, arose and said to the Court that he expected to appear for the defendants, but that his pressing Senatorial duties had interfered with his preparations therefor, and, further, that his absence at that particular time would greatly delay important legislative business. Under the circumstances, therefore, he asked the indulgence of the Court, and that it would consent to a postponement of the hearing. This modest request—with one judge on the bench who undoubtedly owed his nomination to the Senator, and with two others whose confirmation the Senator had favored—the court joyfully and immediately granted. The result was just what the defence anticipated, and which the Senator, beyond doubt, was hired to effect. The receiver, feeling unwilling to submit to a further and indefinite delay, promptly settled with his adversaries by giving up what he felt that, both in law and equity, he was entitled to have; while the Senator pocketed a rich fee for about five minutes' court service, which none other than himself could possibly have rendered. The receiver, in telling the story, added that all the consolation he got from his friends to whom he stated his grievances was, that he ought to have known enough to have anticipated his adversaries in retaining the Senator, or to have headed him off with a larger fee.

Now that Congress has sent to the President the Oleomargarine Bill, we beg leave to suggest to Senator Warner Miller another subject on which he may expend some of his surplus stock of statesmanship. We refer to picnic ice cream. The press keeps recording every week the fatal effects of this food substance; how it distributes cramps and nausea not only among whole families, but among whole church congregations and Sunday-schools, and threatens not only to make the name ice cream odious, but to put a stop to the holding of picnics. A moment's thought will convince any one how serious a blow to the industries of the country such a result would be. As the consumption of ice cream decreases, not only will the demand for cream (mayhap milk) grow less, but in the train of this will come a falling off in the sale of ice, salt, patent freezers, and the whole list of flavoring extracts. Butter is a simple commodity compared with ice cream, and if a tax on oleomargarine was worthy of many weeks' consideration by Congress in behalf of butter, a tax on picnic ice cream ought to be considered in a special session in behalf of the innocuous article. Herein lies the Herkimer County Senator's opportunity. Let him introduce a bill putting a liberal tax on all ice cream made for picnic purposes, with a special clause defining a picnic so clearly that there will be no danger that any judge of the Donohue temperament will grant an injunction. The passage of such a bill would give a fitting rounding up to Mr. Miller's public career. Then, when his loving admirers want to erect a monument to his fame, the

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design will occur instantly to the artist employed. It will only be necessary to place a life-sized figure of the Senator on the roof of a wood-pulp mill, with one foot in a butter tub and the other resting carelessly on an ice-cream freezer, and holding in one hand the manuscript of his address advising young men to stand by their party. The whole world will at once recognize the statue without any inscription.

The summary of the changes in post-offices during the last fiscal year shows the great progress that has been made in overthrowing the "clean sweep" tradition. The Democratic Administration has been in power for sixteen months, and yet more than half the post-offices in the country are still filled by the old Republican incumbents. The total number of appointments made during the twelve months ending with June 30 was 22,747, of which 3,482 were made upon the establishment of new offices, 587 to fill vacancies caused by death, and 9,112 upon resignations and the expiration of commissions, leaving 9,566 cases in which the change was due to removal or suspension of the old incumbent. Comparing these figures with the corresponding totals under a Republican Administration, it appears that the changes correspond very nearly in most particulars, allowing for the increase in the number of offices, appointments upon resignations and expirations of commissions aggregating 7,346 in the year ending June 30, 1882, against 9,112 for the year ending June 30, 1886; the deaths, 461 in 1881-82, against 587 in 1885-86; appointments on the establishment of new offices, 3,166 in 1881-82, against 3,482 in 1885-86. Removals and suspensions aggregated 1,021 in 1881-82, and 9,566 in 1885-86, and this very moderate increase is the only thing that swells the total number of appointments from the 12,343 under a Republican Postmaster-General in 1881-82 to a few thousand above what might have been expected with a Republican Postmaster-General in 1885-86. The showing is exceedingly creditable to the Administration.

The Internal Revenue Bureau makes an excellent showing for the first fiscal year under a Democratic Administration. There has been an increase of about $4,500,000 in the amount of revenue collected, and a decrease of $155,000 in the cost of collecting it. Commissioner Miller has conducted the bureau upon strictly business principles, retaining old and experienced employees, and resisting the most determined efforts of the spoils-seekers to convert his department into a mere political machine; so that this record is peculiarly significant.

The immigration during the fiscal year ending with June shows a slight falling off from the record for the previous year, the aggregate at six ports which always receive about 95 per cent. of the whole number being 328,917 souls, against 349,030 in 1884-85. This is not much more than a third of the total in 1881-82, when no less than 788,992 immigrants arrived in the United States, but it is almost people enough to make a State with a population equal to that of New Hampshire or Vermont. There has been a falling off of about one-third in immigration from Germany during the last year, as compared with the previous one, which unhappily has not been accompanied by a similar decrease in the less desirable classes of new comers from Bohemia, Hungary, Poland, and Italy; the latter nation, indeed, having largely increased its contribution, from 13,587 to 21,503.

The formal call for the "National Anti-Saloon Republican Conference" at Chicago on September 16 has appeared, and a most amusing document it is. It begins with the statement that the promoters of this movement think that "the party should not be asked to commit itself nationally to or against any specific law," but should announce as its settled policy that it will everywhere strive to reduce the businesss of dram-selling, and the evils resulting from it, as much as possible. It proceeds to affirm that "whatever is done must be done honestly, and with such emphasis that the men engaged in the liquor business will recognize the party as their enemy and leave its ranks," since nothing short of this would satisfy the temperance men; but declares that "that line of policy need not, and, if properly managed, will not, alienate the mass of drinking men." In other words, the scheme is so to "manage" things as to fool the Republicans who believe in prohibition, without "alienating" the other sort. The necessity of doing something is emphasized by this frank confession as to the desperate condition of the party:

> "The very existence of the party is at stake. That it is now losing at both ends of the line and gaining nowhere is admitted by all, and it needs no argument to show that the current must, in some way, be changed, or a long series of disasters, if not ultimate ruin, are inevitable."

The determination of the Central Labor Union to promote both the cause of labor and temperance by refraining from Ehret's beer, because he was "mainly instrumental in bringing about the conviction and harsh sentences of the Theiss boycotters," is, as it stands, as silly as most of the other performances of these labor unions. If it provided for abstinence from all beer, one might welcome it, however unpleasant it might be for brewers, but the boycotting of Ehret's beer will probably simply lead to increased consumption of other beer; for it is a melancholy fact that boycotters seldom get together to talk over the "tyranny of capital" without imbibing large quantities of some stimulant. The Third Avenue strikers used to deliberate with a jug of beer, called "the growler," on the table, and the more of it they drank the more eager they were for the forfeiture of the charter of that road. We are greatly afraid that most of the elaborate arguments showing the abstract injustice of boycotting Ehret, which are addressed to the boycotters, are as much thrown away as if they were produced in a kindergarten. The mass of the boycotters appear to be big children, rather than adult members of a free State. They want to annoy and injure Ehret, and care as little what Lieber, or Bentham, or John Stuart Mill would say to their doings as a parcel of bad boys engaged in stoning a cat.

The strike against a Tenth Avenue ribbon manufacturer because he will not allow his weavers to send out and get a pint of beer apiece in the middle of the afternoon is, so far as we know, the first organized movement of the sort, but it is quite in harmony with the revolt against discipline which characterizes so many strikes. It casts a little fresh light upon the difficulties of any coöperative enterprise among such men, since their first principle would be that anybody should be at liberty to leave his work and go out for a drink whenever he felt like it.

The July number of the *Nineteenth Century* contains an interesting article entitled "What the Working Classes Read." Among other things the writer says that "the working classes concern themselves little about any newspaper save those issued on the Sabbath," and he points out the low tone of the matter furnished by these weekly Sunday papers, declaring that "there is nothing in it to elevate, to ennoble, to inspire with a desire for truth and right living." He proceeds as follows:

> "The working classes, in point of fact, are written down to. This is the mistake frequently made by educated men who take up subjects and deal with them for the uneducated. It will, of course, be urged that the Sunday newspaper is a business concern, and that the journalist produces what he finds is read. The excuse is unworthy and unwarranted. The working classes have made no demand for the ephemeral matter placed before them on Sunday mornings."

The excuse of the men who make Sunday newspapers of a poor grade in England is the same which is put forward by the men who make low-toned newspapers every day of the week in this country—that a newspaper "is a business concern," and that "the journalist produces what he finds is read." But in neither country has any evidence ever been presented to establish the claim that the readers want the sort of matter which is thrust upon them. The *Nineteenth Century* writer believes that the excuse is as unwarranted as it is unworthy, which, of course, is only his opinion; but nobody can dispute his statement that "the working classes have made no demand for" such matter as is furnished them. The statement would hold equally true regarding this country. No proof has ever been furnished that the people "demand" the scandalous, salacious, and indecent matter which most newspapers have been publishing in such profusion since the two-cent revolution of three years ago.

The *Independent* discourages the movement of progressive Georgians to develop their school system without Federal aid by such remarks as this: "The Savannah *News* is on the right track in spurring up the State to do more; but it will not succeed this year nor next, nor for ten or twenty years to come, in persuading the State to provide actually for six months of schooling, to say nothing of building schoolhouses, of which it has had the most beggarly supply." Fortunately the *Independent* is now the only Northern journal of any consequence which supports the "bill to promote mendicancy," and its endorsement of the Blair scheme does not count for much with intelligent Southerners against the almost unanimous conclusion of the press that national appropriations would be harmful

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and must not be made. If the *Independent* were to examine into the facts, it would learn that of all Southern States Georgia has the least claim upon Federal bounty. It has almost three times as much wealth as Arkansas, and yet it does not raise as much money for schools. This is chiefly because Georgians have accepted the assurance of such people as the editor of the *Independent* that the nation would foot the bills for educating their children. On the other hand, the motto of Arkansas has been, in the words of the State School Superintendent, "We must be willing to help ourselves, be self-sustaining and independent"; and in this spirit the people have gone on until, as Gov. Hughes said in a recent speech, "the five-mills district-school tax is voted annually by the people in nearly all the school districts in the State," and the schools are in a most encouraging condition. All that is needed to give Georgia an equally good educational system is a readiness on the part of the people to tax themselves in the same way as the Arkansas people do, and that will come as soon as they make up their minds that the rest of the country is not going to give them the needed money. Fortunately there is growing evidence that the majority of them have already reached this conclusion, and, despite the *Independent's* incredulity, we have perfect faith that in much less than "ten or twenty years" such papers as the Savannah *News* will have succeeded in securing six months of schooling in good schoolhouses.

It is rather curious to find, on looking through the various obituary notices of the late Mr. Hubert O. Thompson, that no matter how eulogistic they may be, not one of them ever speaks of his devotion to the public interests or the interests of the city, while much is made of his devotion to the County Democracy and to his "friends." The same thing was observable in the notices of the late John Kelly. In fact, it has ceased in this city to be the custom to expect from a political "chieftain" any special care for the health, cleanliness, good order, or light taxation of the municipality. It is never this which makes a man great in local politics. It is his success as a manager of factions, which would be a good thing if it were used for good ends; but it seldom is. The sign of success is never the improvement of the city government, but the wresting of salaried offices, either by intrigue, escalade, or ambuscade, or barricade, from rival politicians. One of the good signs of the times is to be found in the admission that Mr. Thompson lost his "prestige" when he got neither the Collectorship of the Port from the President nor anything else from Mayor Grace. There was nothing against him, it was said, but they "could not afford" to give him anything. This means simply that the standard of fitness has been so raised by public opinion that a man must be something more than a "chieftain" to get a fat office.

The verdict of the jury in the Crawford-Dilke case confirms the finding of the court in the former trial. It is now adjudged that Mrs. Crawford's story was true, and by consequence that Sir Charles Dilke has added the crime of perjury to the other offences with which he was charged. Worse than that, the perjury was not to shield the reputation of a woman, but to blacken it more deeply. The reopening of the case has been a great public and private calamity — a public calamity because the new revelations reach the proportions of an assault upon the common faith in education and good breeding as props to virtue; a private calamity because both the inculpated parties now stand in a worse light than before, and a number of persons not previously inculpated are now put in the pillory for life. Public sympathy, though seldom accorded in proper measure to the innocent sufferers from such scandals, must be extended to Mr. Crawford, and still more to Mr. Eustace Smith, the father of one unhappy woman and the husband of another. The only persons who have come well out of the Dilke scandal are the counsel who advised him after the first trial to let bad enough alone. They were much censured at the time, and he was much ridiculed for listening to them.

It is not often that anything so amusing in the way of a correspondence appears in print as a letter of Mr. Hubert de Castella to Mr. J. A. Froude, the historian, which we find in the Sydney (Australia) *Morning Herald*. It appears that when Mr. Froude was in Australia Mr. Hubert de Castella entertained him at dinner, and Mr. Froude was delighted with his host, and serves him up as "a most amusing companion" in his last volume, 'Oceana.' In this, Mr. de Castella figures as having served in the French Army, and also as a French detective employed in the Praslin murder case; as having fought behind the barricades in February, 1848, then serving on the police, and as having again fought on the side of the insurgents in June, 1848, and finally, as having married "a Sydney lady, moderately rich, who would have been much richer if she had pleased her friends better in the choice of a husband." Mr. de Castella now says that the only grain of truth in all this is that he did witness the Revolution of 1848, being at the time an art student in Paris, and did join a French cavalry regiment, but all the rest has been "built up" by Mr. Froude's imagination out of anecdotes told in an after-dinner chat. This would be a serious charge to bring against any man, but brought against an historian it is terrible. How can we trust among "the archives" a man who cannot be trusted to listen to a host's reminiscences at a dinner-table?

The exposure of John Bright's tergiversation is melancholy reading, coming so soon after the exposure of similar though far bolder and more unblushing tergiversation on the part of Mr. Chamberlain. It now seems that Mr. Bright in 1866, in the full maturity of his powers and of his fame as a statesman—he was then over fifty, and two years later took a seat in the Cabinet—went to Dublin, and there made a speech to the Irish in which he stated the case for home rule as strongly as it has ever been stated. Since then every reason he gave in its favor has been strengthened by events. Every year has added to their force. Nevertheless it was, of course, open to Mr. Bright to change his mind in the interval, to say that he was persuaded he had made a mistake. But think of his turning on Mr. Gladstone and holding him up as a madman, or worse, and treating his plan of home rule as a scheme for the dismemberment of the empire, and abusing the Irish as unfit for self-government. It is not wonderful that in some of the Liberal clubs his picture has been turned with its face to the wall, as that of a "lost leader."

The difficulties of forming a Tory Cabinet continue, as was anticipated, to increase, as the task comes nearer. It is now acknowledged that no Liberal Unionist will take a place in it, not even Goschen, who within a year expressed his dread of "giving a blank check to Lord Salisbury." Nor can any pledge be extracted from them not to oppose Lord Salisbury on questions of domestic or foreign policy other than the Irish. One of the curious, and for Mr. Gladstone, justificatory, incidents of the crisis, is the expectation, which is said to be current both among the Unionists and the Tories, that they have got rid of the Irish question and can turn their attention to something else. This determination on the part of Englishmen not to be bothered with the Irish question whenever it can possibly be avoided, furnishes the Home-Rulers with one of their strongest arguments.

The London *Economist* supplies late information regarding the wheat harvest of India for the current year, from which it appears that the out-turn of British India and the Native States together is about 7,750,000 tons against 8,400,000 tons the previous year. According to the best calculations available, there is a profit of about 1s. 9½d. per quarter to the Indian grower when wheat brings 32s. in the London market, as it did when the last year's crop was marketed. But the price has now fallen to 31s. The margin of profit on exportation is thus narrowed to 9½d. per quarter, or little more than one penny per bushel, if the estimates of cost of production are correct. But these estimates are not to be depended upon altogether, since the Indian ryot does his own work mainly, and seldom hires labor even at the low price prevailing there. The extension of the railway system is nevertheless causing a steady increase in the number of acres under wheat cultivation, despite the falling prices.

Panama Canal shares declined 33 points, *i. e.*, from 428 to 395, on the Paris Bourse during the week ending July 15. Suez Canal shares fell from 2,030 to 2,000 in sympathy, showing something like a panic among the *petites gens*, who mainly hold both kinds of securities. If the bears could borrow Panama shares for "short" sales, the fall would undoubtedly be much greater. The bonds, of which there are three classes, fell heavily also. M. de Lesseps has called in 75,000,000 francs as an assessment on the share capital, which is expected to last until some kind of new loan can be raised. Meanwhile, the excitement among the investors has communicated itself to the political world, the dimensions of the failure, if it should turn out to be such, being without assignable limits.

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, July 21, to TUESDAY, July 27, 1886, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND visited Albany on Thursday to take part in the exercises of the last day of the bi-centennial celebration. He was enthusiastically received.

The President on Saturday transmitted to the Senate a report from Secretary Bayard, made in compliance with the Senate resolution respecting the seizure of American fishing vessels in Canada. It sets forth the legal proceedings begun, and says: "Concurrent with these events correspondence has begun and is still proceeding between this Department and the British Minister at this capital, and also between the Minister of the United States in London and the Foreign Office of her Britannic Majesty's Government, to obtain suitable recognition and enforcement of our rights under treaty and international law, and the laws and commercial usages of both countries which are brought in question by the action of the Canadian authorities in making seizures and detentions of American fishing vessels herein referred to and described. Pending this correspondence, which, it is believed, must soon terminate in an amicable settlement mutually just and honorable, and therefore satisfactory to both countries and their inhabitants, the undersigned is unable to recommend the President to communicate its contents in its present incomplete status, believing that to do so would not be compatible with the public interests as connected with the transactions referred to."

The brief of Minister Phelps's argument on the fisheries question before the British Foreign Secretary has been submitted to the State Department, and is warmly approved. The United States claims that the seizures of the schooners *David J. Adams* and *Ella M. Doughty* were not legal acts; and the release of the vessels, or the suspension of proceedings against the vessels' masters or owners, together with the payment of damages, is demanded. The United States will not yield the point that the three-mile limit is a distance of three marine miles from the shore at the point where the vessel may happen to be. The United States insists that the fines imposed in the other cases were excessive and not in accordance with international courtesy. The United States is anxious to secure by diplomacy the final and honorable settlement of the controverted points, but failing in this will not consent to see its citizens outraged and insulted. While the markets and ports of the United States are open as of old to the subjects of England, a settlement of the vexed question of the three-mile limit is first of all to be sought for.

On account of the non-release of an American editor, Mr. Cutting of El Paso, confined at Paso del Norte, Mexico, there is considerable warlike talk in Texas. Secretary Bayard has made an imperative demand for the immediate release of Mr. Cutting, which has not been complied with. Cutting was arrested because he alluded to Emilio Medina, a Mexican-Spaniard, as a "fraud and a dead beat," and heaped other abuse upon him through his own Spanish paper in Paso del Norte, and also in the *Sunday Herald* of El Paso. On his arrest he was not even offered the privilege of bail.

The House of Representatives on Wednesday passed the concurrent resolution for adjournment on July 28, by 145 to 36.

On Friday the House concurred in all the Senate amendments to the Oleomargarine Bill, thus avoiding the necessity for a conference. The bill went to the President, who on Monday referred it to the Attorney-General. It is supposed that the question of its constitutionality will be decided by him.

The House on Saturday passed the bill for increasing the navy.

The Senate on Thursday finally disposed of the Naval Appropriation Bill, and then proceeded with the Payne debate, deciding on Friday, by a vote of 17 to 44, not to investigate Senator Payne's election. All the affirmative votes were Republican.

The clause of the Sundry Civil Bill referring to silver certificates as finally passed by the Senate on Saturday reads as follows: "And the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required to issue silver certificates in denominations of one, two, and five dollars; and the silver certificates herein authorized shall be receivable, redeemable, and payable in like manner and for like purposes as is provided for silver certificates by the Act of February 28, 1878, entitled 'An Act to authorize the coinage of the standard silver dollar, and to restore its legal-tender character; Provided, that said denominations of $1, $2, and $5, may be issued in lieu of silver certificates of larger denominations in the Treasury, and to that extent said certificates of larger denominations shall be cancelled and destroyed." The bill appropriates an aggregate of $24,418,375, or an increase of $3,106,850 over the amount appropriated by the bill as it came from the House. The items added by the Senate are $717,545 for public buildings, $516,750 for lighthouses, $106,652 for the Coast Survey, and $1,765,902 on account of miscellaneous items.

The Senate Committee on Finance agreed by a majority vote on Tuesday to report the Morrison surplus resolution with an amendment. The text of the resolution remains as it came from the House, but the following proviso is attached: "That no call shall be made under the provisions of this resolution until a sum equal to the call is in the Treasury over and above the reserve herein mentioned; and provided further, that the Secretary of the Treasury in his discretion may have in the Treasury over and above the foregoing sum a working balance not exceeding $20,000,000; and in the case of any extraordinary emergency, and when, because thereof, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Treasury, the public interest shall require it, he may by written order suspend the further call for the payment of such indebtedness for such period of time as shall be necessary to maintain the public credit unimpaired."

Gen. Wells, Collector of Customs at Burlington, Vt., suspended, has resigned, and Col. B. B. Smalley, who many months ago was appointed Collector to take the place of Wells, and who is the incumbent of the office, but who has not been confirmed, has been again nominated Collector to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Gen. Wells. Of the confirmation of Col. Smalley under this new appointment there can be no doubt. This was one of the conspicuous cases in which Senator Edmunds took a special personal interest.

Post-office inspectors have discovered that Col. Bolton, Superintendent of second-class matter at the Chicago Post-office and the Chief-Weigher Stuart, have defrauded the Government out of several thousand dollars. Both were arrested. These men would report one weight of newspapers and collect from the newspapers for a much larger weight.

The Postmaster-General has caused to be prepared a statement of the operation of the railway mail service for the last fiscal year. In this service there was a reformed system established by George Bangs, one of its first superintendents, which, in its essential features, has been continued to this day. The system does not apply to admission to the service, which has generally been almost entirely political, but after a clerk is admitted he is classed as a probationer, and is required to maintain a certain standard of excellence to retain his place. The total number of clerks in the railway mail service at the beginning of the present fiscal year was 4,563. The total number of appointments by increase during the year was 176. The vacancies by resignation were 437. There were 459 removals, of which 227 were for partisanship manifested by the clerks appointed under the Republican Administration, and 232 for other causes. Of the clerks appointed under this Administration only one has been removed for partisanship.

The recent vigorous orders of the Civil-Service Commission have the full approval of the President. He is determined that the law shall be executed in letter and spirit, has been thoroughly advised as to every movement of the Commission, and has approved it. The Civil-Service Commissioners are considering the propriety of taking charge of the examinations for promotions in the departments. This fact gives the clerks who have long been in the service some concern.

The internal-revenue collections for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1886, were $116,902,845; for the previous fiscal year $112,421,121, an increase of $4,481,724. The Commissioner thinks there will be a further increase for the coming year.

The Vermont Democrats on Thursday nominated S. B. Shurtleff of Montpelier, for Governor. The platform warmly approves the Administration.

The great rolling-mill strike, involving 1,500 men in the five largest establishments of Philadelphia, has been settled by arbitration in favor of the employees.

William Hunter, Second Assistant Secretary of State, the oldest official in continuous service of the United States, died on Thursday in Washington of a complication of diseases incident to old age. He was born in Newport, R. I., in 1805, and entered the State Department as a clerk in 1829. He was appointed chief clerk under the Administration of Fillmore, and Assistant Secretary ad interim under the two Democratic Administrations of Pierce and Buchanan, and was regularly commissioned Assistant Secretary when Andrew Johnson was President. There was probably no man of his day whose knowledge of the diplomatic moves of the Government was so thorough as that of William Hunter. There is little in the secret history of the affairs of state of the United States with which he was not familiar. His most celebrated work was the letter which he wrote to the Austrian Government in the Koszta case, which was signed by Daniel Webster while sick in bed. In politics Mr. Hunter was always a stanch Democrat. After the breaking out of the war Assistant-Secretary Treshold, who was a North Carolinian, resigned and went South, and Mr. Hunter was given the place until a permanent Secretary could be appointed. As a reward for his services in this position, at the conclusion of the war the office of Second Assistant Secretary was specially provided, and in 1866 Mr. Hunter was commissioned as such, and retained the position until his death. During a short interval of four days between the relinquishing of the Secretaryship of State by Everett and the appointment of Marcy, Mr. Hunter was the acting Secretary of State.

Charles F. Conant, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury under Secretary Bristow from 1874 to 1877, died at Cambridge, Mass., on Monday, at the age of fifty-one.

Hubert O. Thompson, ex-Commissioner of Public Works, was found dead in his bed at the Worth House, in this city, at 9:35 o'clock on Monday morning. He died of cerebral apoplexy. His age was thirty-seven years. Mr. Thompson was the leader of the County Democracy in this city, a firm believer in "practical politics," and one of their most skilful manipulators. His education was acquired in the public schools, being finished at the Free Academy, now the College of the City of New York. After ten years passed in Wall Street, in brokerage and railroad business, he was appointed chief clerk in the Water Purveyor's office, and soon afterward Deputy

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Commissioner. He filled the latter position with credit for three years, resigning to accept from Gov. Robinson the appointment of County Clerk. His term as Commissioner of Public Works began in 1880, and lasted until the appointment of the present Commissioner, Mr. Squire. He withdrew from Tammany Hall in 1877 because of hostility to John Kelly. It has been generally understood that Mr. Thompson's notoriety as a practical politician was the reason why his services in the field of national polititics in 1884 were not more openly recognized by the Administration. It has also been understood that, after he gave up hope of obtaining the Collectorship for himself, his influence was potent in securing the appointment of Mr. Hedden, as being, through their common friends, in some sort his representative. Since that event he has generally been regarded as "the power behind the throne" at the Custom-house in cases where the civil-service rules did not absolutely prevent the exercise of political patronage.

FOREIGN.

Mr. Gladstone on Wednesday received from the Queen her acceptance of the resignations of himself and Cabinet.

Commenting on the political situation, *United Ireland*, Mr. Parnell's Dublin organ, says: "The Marquis of Salisbury will be compelled ere long to produce his manacles. During the past year the Irish people have submitted to the bitterest privations and extortions patiently. The judicial rents are becoming daily more impossible for the tenantry to pay, and more unbearable. It is absolutely hopeless to expect any redress from an English Parliament. It is not in human nature for the Irish tenantry to longer refrain from helping themselves. Landlords will fight for their rents with fire, sword, or crowbar, thus obliging Lord Salisbury to pray Parliament to assist the landlords by some new-fangled coercion act. Then will come the tug of war."

Mr. Gladstone, replying recently to inquiries as to which were the best books to read on the historical side of the Irish question, said that at present there was a great lack of any complete work. He recommends Lecky's 'Leaders of Public Opinion in Ireland,' and 'History of England in the Eighteenth Century'; also many portions of Froude's 'English in Ireland in the Eighteenth Century'; Lord Cloncurry's 'Personal Recollections of His Lifetime, with Extracts from His Correspondence'; but above all, Burke, especially his writings on America as applied to Ireland. As regards the recent history of the land question, Mr. Gladstone recommends the perusal of Barry O'Brien's articles in the *Nineteenth Century*.

Lord Salisbury called upon Lord Hartington on Saturday morning and held an hour's conference with him. Lord Hartington promised him a friendly support, but declined to join the Conservative Government. Lord Randolph Churchill subsequently held a conference with Salisbury. Lord Salisbury at 11:30 A. M. started for Osborne to receive the Queen's command to form a government. It was reported that the Queen on Sunday made a direct personal appeal to Lord Hartington to form a Ministry. On Monday, however, Lord Salisbury formally assumed the task of making a Ministry. On his arrival in London he was received with great enthusiasm.

The London *News* on Tuesday said: "Lord Salisbury has proffered to Lord Randolph Churchill the position of leader of the House of Commons, combined with the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer, a post which involves less office work than any other in the Government, and has, therefore, been habitually associated with the position of leader. Churchill has accepted this proposal."

Lord Salisbury outlined his programme at a meeting of Conservative members of Parliament on Tuesday. He said that Lord Hartington and the Liberal-Unionists would support the Conservative Government "on every question concerning the maintenance and integrity of the Empire." The Ministry, he said, would forthwith prepare a bill to "grapple with the Irish difficulty in the direction of extended local self-government." To protect the Loyalists in Ireland, they would "vigorously enforce the existing laws and apply for additional powers if necessary." Parliament would at once be summoned, and would sit during August for the purpose of proving the estimates.

Mr. Goschen has finally declined to act with the Conservatives on any terms.

The British War Office announces that in consequence of an article published in the London *Times* of July 19 charging the officials of the Ordnance Department with corruption, Gens. Campbell, Reilly, and Alderson, successively chiefs of that department for the past eleven years, demanded an inquiry before a competent tribunal, and that Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, War Secretary, refused to grant an inquiry, because the charges were vague and were not supported by any statement of facts. The *Times* article declared that it had long been manifest that the War Department was incompetent, and that now it was openly said to be corrupt.

The case of Crawford against Crawford and Dilke was given to the jury on Friday afternoon. They were out only twenty minutes. Their verdict was that Mr. Crawford was entitled to divorce from his wife on the ground of adultery with Sir Charles Dilke, as decided *nisi* by Justice Sir Charles Butt on February 12 last, the present case being simply a rehearing at the intervention of the Queen's Proctor.

Sir Charles Dilke has ordered the sale of his house at Chelsea, and will live permanently in the south of France. He has issued an address to his Chelsea constituents, in which he says: "I have always known how difficult my cause would be, even if it were presented as I had reason to suppose it would be by my own advisers, and I have never concealed it from you. But the method of procedure ordered by the courts intensified the difficulty. As far as my public life goes I have no option but to accept the verdict. While protesting once more against its justice, I can only assure you, as I have already often solemnly assured you, and with equal solemnity sworn in court, that I am innocent of the charges brought against me, and respectfully and gratefully bid you farewell."

John Ruskin's illness has changed for the worse.

Cyrus W. Field, in his action in London for libel against James Gordon Bennett, has obtained a verdict for £5,000 damages and costs.

The Irish team won the Elcho Shield at Wimbledon on Friday with a score of 1,471. The Scotch team scored 1,408, and the English team 1,385. The English Team won the Kalapore Cup on Wednesday.

France denies absolutely that she has any intention of annexing the New Hebrides.

Admiral Lafont of the French Navy, before the Budget Committee on Wednesday, said: "The French fleet can vie with the navy of any Power. If to-morrow the Government should undertake a naval war, I should sail at the head of my squadron without the slightest anxiety and without doubt of our success, even though the war were directed against Great Britain."

It is reported that China has intrusted French engineers with the construction at an early date of railways in the empire.

The Paris *Figaro* contains a sensational article warning the country that Gen. Boulanger is plotting a *coup d'état*. The writer, M. Lavedan, says: "This is not mere idle speculation. it is a serious forecast, based on surer information than that of official agencies like the Agence Havas. Yes, the General wishes for war, and I am assured that this phrase has been uttered: 'That the new Fructidor would only be a preface to a new Marengo.' Gambetta dreamed the same dream, and hoped to realize it by the same means. He, too, dreamed of rising to power by war. He, too, while he was posturing on the balconies, knew that, though a mountebank, acting might be useful to build up a reputation and popularize his name, if it could not consolidate a dictatorship. Windy talk could not stand for glory, and but for the mysterious bullet of the Ville d'Avray, who can tell into what new disasters the Carnot defeat might have plunged us? *Eh bien!* A military Gambetta, a soldier-adventurer, is trying to play the same game. Public opinion is warned. Let the national security be looked to. Let us measure the whole consequence of the events which may surprise us."

The French Republicans have organized a committee for the propagation of republican principles among the people of France and the extirpation of royalism. The Committee has framed an appeal to Frenchmen to generally support the movement.

The Rothschilds some time ago gave M. Marcel Deprez unlimited credit for the prosecution of researches in the problem of the electrical transmission of force. The results of the researches have just been submitted to a committee of inspection composed of thirty-eight scientists, and the Committee by a unanimous vote have approved the report, and pronounce the results obtained by M. Deprez worthy of the highest congratulations.

M. Désiré Médéric Leblond, the emiLent French advocate and statesman, is dead at the age of seventy-four. He was a leader at the Paris bar and Attorney-General of the Court of Appeals. He was elected to the National Assembly in 1871 and became leader of the Republican side. In 1879 he was elected Senator.

There was serious rioting in Amsterdam on Sunday and Monday because of the prohibition of certain popular games on Sunday. On Monday night the troops fired into the mob, killing ten. Socialists fomented the disorders. Twenty-eight persons have been arrested, including two Socialists. It is reported that twenty persons have been killed and eighty wounded in the riots.

It is said that the Emperors of Russia, Germany, and Austria will meet at Gastein on August 8.

Carl von Piloty, the German painter, is dead at the age of sixty-two. He stood at the head of the modern realistic school of Germany. Among his great historical works are "The Elector Maximillian adhering to the Catholic League in 1609," "A Scene before the Commencement of the Battle of Prague," and "Nero after the Burning of Rome."

Maximilian Wolfgang Duncker, the German historian, is dead at the age of seventy-four. He became professor of history at Halle in 1842, a member of the German National Assembly in 1848, professor at Tübingen in 1857, and received an appointment in the Prussian Ministry in 1861. Among his works are 'Origines Germanicæ' (1840), and a 'History of Antiquity' (1852).

Herr Scaria, the great basso, who visited this country with Materna in 1884, died on Thursday at Dresden. He was born in 1840, and made his début in the "Huguenots" at the age of twenty.

The opening performance of the Wagner Festival at Bayreuth was successfully given on Friday under the personal superintendence of Frau Wagner.

The Canadian Government will send a steamer from Quebec to the coast of Newfoundland and Labrador to carry such donations as charitably disposed persons may desire to send to the starving people there. The suffering and destitution are terrible. More than 1,500 people have already died.

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THE "CAPITAL" BOGIE.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE, who has had a long experience in the relations of both labor and capital, prints in the last number of the *Forum* an article on the late strikes, in which he corroborates strongly the protests which we have addressed to clergymen and others who approach the labor problem from the moral and religious point of view, against the practice of generalizing the owners of capital into an abstraction called "Capital," and the laborers who live by weekly wages into an abstraction called "Labor." Probably nothing has done so much to embitter the long-standing feud between laborers and employers as this practice. The Socialistic doctors of the Karl Marx school, it is true, began it, and those somewhat ridiculous professorial Socialists of the German school, of whom we have a feather-headed variety among ourselves, help the Christian moralists in keeping it up; but all who care about peace and good-will on earth ought to avoid it and reprobate it.

A more striking illustration of the mischief that may be done by the misuse of words it would be hard to find. It has resulted in creating in the imagination of poor men all over the civilized world to-day a very odious but fictitious person, wallowing in luxury and self-indulgence; absolutely indifferent to the sorrows of those who have little money; charged with the responsibility of making the world happy and peaceful, but utterly neglecting his duty; and wielding the immense power which the possession of most of the spare cash of an entire community naturally gives. With this person, named "Capital," all employers of manual labor are supposed to be in some mysterious manner connected, and are believed to participate more or less freely in his vices and selfishness. Whenever a strike takes place, he appears promptly on the scene, bloated with pride and arrogance, and refuses to let Labor (for a band of strikers, however small, is in like manner generalized into "Labor") have its just share of the fruits of its industry or to make the smallest reduction in the hours of toil, and, if worst comes to worst, summons the militia to his aid and shoots Labor down. In the pulpits he is freely denounced, too, for his too rigid adherence to the doctrines of political economy and for not carrying on his business in a more humanitarian spirit, for not paying Labor more liberal wages, which he is always presumed to be able to do simply by drawing a check on the immense stores of gold which he keeps in banks and such places, and for not occupying himself more with the clothes and food of Labor and his wife.

Now, if Capital were only called Savings, this misunderstanding might be avoided. There is no such person as Capital. Neither Jay Gould, nor Vanderbilt, nor any other number of very rich men are Capital. Capital is simply a much-abused name applied to the whole sum of money which each generation in every community saves by hard work and self-denial. Very few, indeed, of those who make it and hold it are rich people or live in luxury.

Not only is this true of nearly every branch of business conducted by individuals, but it is largely true even of the great railroads and other corporations. The Pennsylvania Railroad is owned by 19,340 shareholders in lots of from one fifty-dollar share up. The New York Central is owned by 10,418 shareholders, of whom about one-third are women or executors of estates.

"The entire railroad system of the United States," Mr. Carnegie says, "will show a similar wide distribution of ownership among the people. There are but three railway corporations in which capitalists hold a considerable interest, and the great interest in two of these is held by various members of a family, and in no case does it amount to the control of the whole. Steel-rail mills, with only one exception, show a like state of affairs. One of them belongs to 215 shareholders, of whom 7 are employees, 32 are estates, and 57 are women. Another of these concerns is owned by 302 stockholders, of whom 101 are women, 29 are estates, representing an unknown number of individuals, and 20 are employees of the company. A large proportion of the remaining owners are small holders of comparatively limited means, who have, from time to time, invested their savings where they had confidence both as to certainty of income and safety of principal. The Merrimac Manufacturing Company (cotton) of Lowell is owned by 2,500 shareholders, of whom 42 per cent. are holders of one share, 21 per cent. of two, and 10 per cent. of three shares. Twenty-seven per cent. are holders of over three shares; and not less than 38 per cent. of the whole stock is held by trustees, guardians, and executors of charitable, religious, educational, and financial institutions.

"I have obtained similar statements from other concerns which need not be published. They prove without exception that from one-fourth to one-third of the number of shareholders in corporations are women and executors of estates. The number of shareholders I have given are those of record, each holding a separate certificate. But it is obvious, in the case of executors, that this one certificate may represent a dozen owners. Many certificates issued in the name of a firm represent several persons, while shares held by a corporation may represent hundreds; but if we assume that every certificate of stock issued by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company represents only two owners, which is absurdly under the truth, it follows that, should every employee of that great company quarrel with it, the contest would be not against a few, but against a much larger body than they themselves constitute. It is within the mark to say that every striking employee would oppose his personal interest against that of three or four other members of the community. The total number of men employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is 18,911—not as many as there are shareholders of record. And what is true of the Pennsylvania Railway Company is true of the railway system as a whole, and, in a greater or less degree, of mining and manufacturing corporations generally."

Of course, if we analyze the capital engaged in farming, and in shopkeeping, and the smaller industries, we should find in a still greater degree that it consisted of the painfully-made savings of poor and industrious people.

Nevertheless, in the teeth of all this, which is one of the plainest facts of modern society, we find, in the same number of the *Forum*, an article by the Rev. George Batchelor, predicting a speedy and terrible but very mysterious "revolt of the majority." Against whom the revolt is to be, he does not distinctly intimate, but we presume it is to be against those rascals—"The Few"—who save something every year out of their wages. At first sight it would seem as if such a revolt would be short, for the Few would soon be robbed, and their savings wasted, and then the curse of "Capital" would be lifted from suffering humanity. But Mr. Batchelor will not let us off so easily. He insists on making it a good long rebellion. "They will reckon without their host," says he, "who suppose that this is only a passing breeze of dissatisfaction with the wages paid by capital to labor, for this is the first great ground-swell of universal human society coming at last to a consciousness of itself." We doubt very much whether Mr. Batchelor when he wrote this knew exactly what he meant by it. Had he thought his subject out a little more thoroughly, he would probably have seen that what he was predicting, if he was predicting anything, was a return to the savage state, for it is only in the savage state that there is no Capital, and Labor consumes the whole product of the labor. But then the product is not worth much, and Labor there is a disgusting and contemptible object.

MR. EVARTS ON OLEOMARGARINE.

THE *Daily Commercial Bulletin* has interested itself in an examination of a legal opinion written two years ago by the Hon. Wm. M. Evarts on the oleomargarine controversy. The question presented to him at that time was whether the act, already passed by the State Legislature, "to prevent deception in the sale of dairy products," was or was not constitutional. Mr. Evarts had not been previously committed by a retainer to any particular view of the question in dispute. His legal opinion was sought by the dealers or others interested in oleomargarine in the customary way. Being sought and given in this way, it was an opinion which a lawyer ought either to stand by in all conceivable cases, or publicly to disavow if he no longer holds the same opinions. Here is what Mr. Evarts said in 1884 and a synopsis of what he said in the Senate the other day:

EVARTS IN 1884.	EVARTS IN 1886.
"If this Act shall be construed *not as protecting* the public against 'deception in sales of dairy products,' but as protecting dairy producers in a monopoly of human food, against the manufacture and sale of the genuine products of other oleaginous substances suited as wholesome human food, in greater or less degree, to compete with or take the place of dairy products, *I am of opinion that such legislation is repugnant with our Constitution.* Legislation in this sense no longer adheres to the protection of guaranteeing a lawful product against simulation and deception, or protecting the public against fraud and imposition, but *stands upon the avowed and unlimited discrimination in favor of monopoly, to the injury of other honest and useful producers, and the oppression of the public.* It is quite plain that the moment this legislation departs from the theory and justification of this Act as limited to 'prevent deception in sales of dairy products,' no proscription on the mere ground of protective monopoly of one industry can be limited by any rule of discretion in this line and style of discrimination among the people of this State and their pursuits (?). *Hitherto, until recently, the maxims and instincts of public liberty have discountenanced all such methods of legislation.* I am unwilling to tolerate the pretension that the provisions of our Constitution offer no barrier to such an innovation upon freedom and equality as the creation of monopolies at the discretion of the Legislature."	"Mr. Evarts described the *condition of alarm into* which the dairy interests of the country had been thrown by the introduction of oleomargarine, and said he should have supposed that, on the mere statement of that existence of things, everybody would have sympathized with this interest, so vast, so simple, so necessary, and so historical. The question was whether one good and honest product, one good and honest trade, one good and important element of foreign commerce was—in its body and substance—to be attacked by fraud, and reduced, not only, in its gain, but threatened in its existence. *He argued that, within the eye of the law, the bill was Constitutional.* The Senate was now to confront the question whether this mischief, this injury, this stigma, this danger to trade abroad and at home should be suffered to exist because of a difference between the two houses as to the amount of the tax. He himself should forego his own judgment as to what the tax should be, and would accept the bill as passed by the House. In conclusion, he made a strong appeal for sympathy in behalf of the great class of dairy farmers."

Mr. Evarts's "strong appeal" for sympathy

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for the dairy farmers has been published is quite as intelligible as his Boston speech on the silver question. It combines the bucolics of Virgil with the martial themes of Homer, and pictures all that we owe to the farmer as the bulwark and sheet-anchor of society in war and peace.

It may be said that Mr. Evarts in 1884 was arguing against an act of the State Legislature, and that what is unconstitutional for a Legislature may be constitutional for Congress. This is true, but the opinion of 1884 went deeper than technicalities. It touched "the maxims and instincts of human liberty," which he said were assaulted if the act went one step beyond the aim of protecting the public against deception. Now this is just what the bill in Congress does. It takes measures not only to protect the public against deception, but also to tax the article oleomargarine in order to give the butter-makers an advantage in the market. All who have had anything to say on this question are agreed that the severest measures should be taken to guard against fraud and deception. The makers of oleomargarine offer no objection to the bill on that score. They contend merely, as Mr. Evarts did two years ago, that a discriminating tax on their product is an infringement on liberty and an oppression of the poorer classes of society.

It is a relief to turn from the gymnastics of the Senate Chamber to the studies of a man of science. Prof. Atwater of Bangor, Me., whose name is widely known as an original investigator of the constituents of human food, sends to *Bradstreet's* a searching answer to the analyses of oleomargarine which were made by the Department of Agriculture at Washington, at the instance of Mr. Warner Miller, and used by him in the debate. These analyses showed that the samples submitted, upon being boiled, gave off the odor of decomposed cheese (casein), and were exceedingly offensive to the smell and taste, and that all were unfit for human food. Prof. Atwater states that the casein which decomposes and produces the bad smell and taste when subjected to heat comes from the butter used in the manufacture of oleomargarine, and nowhere else, as the fatty substances which make up the bulk of the article oleomargarine contain no casein whatever. He says that the amount of rancidity and fermentation in oleomargarine is generally in proportion to the amount of real butter used in making it, and that if ordinary "strong" butter had been used by the Department of Agriculture in making the tests, the results would have been the same. In other words, a true scientific demonstration would have shown that oleomargarine is less liable to become rancid than real butter. "Imitation butter and real butter," he continues, "as sold and used, are about equally nutritious; both are generally wholesome, but are liable to be badly made at the outset, and to become unwholesome on keeping. Objectionable specimens of both materials are only too frequent in the market and in the household. Imitation butter can be produced with a flavor equal to that of the common sorts of butter, and at much lower cost." This, it must be admitted, is no argument to a Senator who is defending the home and the family, and who finds inspiration in the gallant deeds of embattled farmers when the republic was in danger; but it ought to have great weight with the lawyer who seeks to guard the threshold of liberty against the encroachments of an insidious despotism.

THE REPUBLIC AND THE PANAMA CANAL.

THERE is a vague but growing belief in European circles that the French Republic is nearing its end. This is founded, of course, mainly on the fact that it is approaching the term of twenty years beyond which no French Government within the last century has lasted. The first Republic, after various mutations within that period, ended in the first Empire, the first Empire within that period ended in the Restoration, the Restoration within that period ended in the Monarchy of July, and the Monarchy of July in like period gave place to the second Empire, and the second Empire to the present Republic. Why the revolutionary cycle should be twenty years is, of course, hard to explain; but the probable reason is the appearance of a new generation on the scene every twenty years, which is apt to be dissatisfied with the political work of its predecessor.

In the United States or in England this dissatisfaction would find expression simply in the formation of a new party, or the restoration of the Opposition to power. But in France there are no parties loyal to the same constitution. Each French party has a form of government of its own, and does not think it has succeeded until it has imposed it on the country. Moreover, a change in the form of government is not the serious matter in France that it would be in other countries. It is hardly more serious than the substitution in the Presidency of a Democrat for a Republican is with us. It brings with it very little change which affects people in their daily lives. Until the present Republic came into power there were very few removals among the office-holders. The law, and the army, and the Church, and the judiciary have always hitherto remained untouched. A new set of men get to the head of the great departments of state, and their chief is sometimes called an Emperor, sometimes a King, and sometimes a President, but all else goes on pretty much as before.

There are, however, just now some new reasons for looking for a revolution beyond the mere running out of the usual governmental term. The Republic has gone beyond all its predecessors since 1795 in the number and magnitude of the changes it has made in what may be called the French Social Constitution. It has attacked the Church as no other Government has ventured to attack it since the Revolution. It has laicized the public schools, with a good deal of harshness and brutality, or, as religious people say, "has expelled God" from them. It has made immense modifications in the constitution of the army, has for the first time removed large numbers of the judges on the ground of their political opinions, and introduced "office-seeking" on a scale never before witnessed in France. Moreover, after having inherited an enormous debt from the Empire, it has not only done nothing to reduce it, but has added to it, and has persisted in the makeshift ways of concealing from the nation the growth of its liabilities which the Empire began. The increase of popular dissatisfaction with the Republican experiment, was plainly revealed at the last election by the return of a very powerful monarchical minority to the Chambers; but it is not the custom of French parties to take warning from electoral defeats and modify their policy. One of the traditions of the first Revolution which they cherish most strongly, is the rule that if your enemies appear to be growing stronger, you must be all the more strenuous in pursuing the courses which most displease them.

French discontent is, however, always like a powder magazine. It has enormous explosive power, but needs to be started by a spark of some kind; and those who believe we are about to witness another great political change in France, when asked what this spark is to be, are beginning to say that it will be the collapse of the Panama Canal scheme, which they declare to be near at hand. This enterprise has already absorbed about $140,000,000 of French capital, mostly held by French people of small means, or "petites gens," as the great capitalists call them. When they subscribed, the prospectus of the enterprise represented that $120,000,000 would be sufficient to complete the work. But it is doubtful if it is yet half done. M. de Lesseps now says he needs $120,000,000 more, and he asks the authorization of the Government to raise this sum by a gigantic lottery, and a bill for that purpose has been before the Legislature for some time, but the Ministers have been afraid to press it.

The reason they are afraid is, that although they have had the works on the Isthmus examined by a Government engineer, he has not been able to give any very strong assurance that $120,000,000 will suffice to complete them. In fact, the chances are, even if the company had no use for the money but to dig with it, that it would not suffice. But it has other uses. M. Leroy-Beaulieu, in an article in the *Économiste Français* which has sent a tremor through French investors, shows that if the company succeeds in getting all the money it asks, it will have to pay in annual interest and expenses of administration about $85,000,000 before it will earn a cent, supposing it to be open to traffic in 1892, as the more hopeful believe. But supposing it to open only in 1895, as the less sanguine fear, the total of its annual charges will be $127,000,000. Now, a Government permission to open a lottery for this purpose, although it is not a Government guarantee, will be considered by the "petites gens" as at least a Governmental endorsement of the enterprise; and if it breaks down, there will result, M. Leroy-Beaulieu says, "the most gigantic disaster the modern world has seen since the fall of the John Law system." And that it will break down if the canal be left dependent on French capital alone, he evidently expects.

It is this breakdown (which the death of M. de Lesseps, now a man of over eighty, may precipitate any day) to which the alarmists are looking to bring about the overthrow of the Republic. But the precise manner in which it is to bring it about, as long as the Chambers are

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mainly Republican and the army in Republican hands, we confess we do not see. The strength of the Royalists is in the provinces, and no revolution has yet been wrought by the provinces. There is plenty of hostility in Paris to the present Government, but it is the hostility, not of those who think France has had enough of the Republic, but that the Republic has not been Republican enough for France.

THE READING HABIT.

In the hearing in January last before the Committee of the Senate on the Copyright Bill introduced by Senator Hawley, there was a good deal said about the rapid decline in the demand for American books under the competition of the cheap reprints of all sorts of books by the American pirates. But Mr. Henry Holt added:

"This is not the whole question. It is rapidly becoming a question whether with rare exceptions we are going to have any serious books at all. Consider this a moment: the competition of books issued by these cheap libraries is ruinous to all books that are not in these cheap libraries. It is not a question of the competition of an English book, which is reprinted for 20 cents, with the same edition of a book which is reprinted for a dollar. It is the competition of this cheap reading matter that a man can pick up and throw away, with all the substantial books. It is ruining the sale of all books. It is not ruining the sale merely of books of fiction, or the sale of mere trash."

He then cited as an illustration the failure in the American market of Sir Henry Maine's two or three last books, the early ones having sold very well; and continued:

"In the old days of trade courtesy, the pet extravagance of many a substantial citizen in an out-of-the-way place was to step in the bookstore of an evening, glance over the stock, and take something substantial home in a shape which he could hand down to his children and his children's children. Now, except in favored places, there is no bookstore for him to go to. Its place is taken by a toy shop, with a few school-books in one corner and a great counter full of cheap pamphlets. The book-buying habit is dying out. It was never confined to those who read. Books are largely bought by people who fancy books, who take them home intending to read, but don't."

The complaint now comes from England that even the novels are no longer selling well; that there is "no money" even in cheap reprints of very popular ones. A long wail in the *Fortnightly Review* by Mr. Alexander Innes Shand, over the great depression in the fiction market, proposes as a remedy the issue of first editions, even, in a cheap paper-covered form, as an experiment. If it or something like it does not succeed, "sooner or later," he says, "some future annalist will have to write the history of the decline and fall of English fiction."

We have ourselves little doubt that the decline in serious reading, which Mr. Holt says interferes with the sale of solid works, is now to be witnessed in continuous reading of any kind, and that it is from this that novels in a book form are suffering. To read a book—any book whatever—with pleasure or even comfort, the attention has to be so disciplined that it can pursue one line of thought for at least an hour or two. Keeping one's mind on a book of any kind needs practice, just as much as keeping one's mind on a speech or sermon. The capacity for listening well is now rarely found except among judges and lawyers, and even among the judges it is said to be falling off under the influence of printed briefs and arguments. But it has to be cultivated in order to be either attained or retained, as everybody knows who only occasionally goes to hear a sermon or lecture. The untrained attention runs hither and thither like a restless child, and nothing but a very determined effort of the will keeps it fixed on the words of the orator or wards off sleep, in which, again like a restless child, it is very apt to take refuge on the slightest approach of fatigue. Curiously enough, too, the incapacity for sustained attention or mental effort is one of the most marked characteristics of the savage, as distinguished from the civilized man. All who have had to do with the savage in any part of the world testify that the greatest difficulty in communicating new ideas to him is that of getting him to listen long on any one subject His mind is as prone to wander as that of a child.

The capacity for reading a book—that is, for keeping the mind fixed on one argument or narrative for a period more or less prolonged—has always in modern times been much more widespread than the capacity for listening, owing to the fact that we all get our earliest mental training through books. As long, too, as books were the only sources of entertainment, and large numbers of more or less cultivated people lived in the country, and there were no newspapers or other periodicals, and few amusements, and travel was rare and expensive, the habit of rea ing was kept up. But there is great reason to fear that, what with the newspapers, and the magazines, and the art galleries, and the museums, and the theatres, and facility with which we can get other people to gossip with us when we are both idle and lazy, the number of those who can or ever do read a book—even a novel, even a poor novel—is rapidly declining. In fact, we fear that any one who inquired among his friends, outside the professors and professional literary men, would find that the number of those who now ever read a serious book of any kind is exceedingly small, and that those who read even novels is growing smaller. Most men who have not kept up the habit of reading, in fact, go to sleep over a serious book almost immediately, and throw down a novel after a few pages if the plot does not thicken rapidly, or the incidents are few. The thoughtful novel, such as George Eliot's, filled with reflection and speculation, would fare much worse now, even coming from an author of her powers, than it did thirty years ago. The newspaper is fast forming the mental habits of this generation, and, in truth, even this is getting to be too heavy, unless the articles or extracts are very short. The reader begins more and more to resent being asked to keep his attention fixed on any one subject for more than five minutes. In short, any one who flatters himself during the busy years of an active career, when he does no reading but newspaper reading, that he is going to become a reader of books at a later period when he gets more leisure, may rest assured that he is greatly mistaken. When leisure comes he will find that a serious book will tire him or send him asleep in ten minutes, just as a dumb-bell would tire a long unused arm. To be able to read continuously for long periods, at any time of life, just as to be able to row, or walk, or ride, one must keep in practice year after year, by doing more or less of it every day or at least every week. The man who finds that he shrinks from a book and longs for a Sunday paper, may feel as sure that he is mentally "out of condition" as the athlete who cannot bear to leave his easy-chair without a cocktail.

The falling off in the practice of book-buying, even among those who mean to read but do not, of which Mr. Holt speaks, we think is due in a considerable degree to the superior attractions of what we may call other kinds of furniture. For books, whether old or new, are to the collector—that is, to the man who buys books without seriously meaning to read them, and without feeling much interest in what they contain—books are furniture rather than literature. Thirty years ago, before the æsthetic movement, that is, before the days of "art" and bric-à-brac in this country, a "substantial citizen" who had made money and wanted to show it, ordered a library as a matter of course when furnishing his new house. It filled some of the vast spaces on the walls of his parlor, which in those days the upholsterer, who used to be wholly occupied with the carpets, tables, and chairs, did not reach. Moreover, it fell in with the traditions of the time, when not only in New England, but all along the seaboard, a gentleman was expected to have a library, and there were sets of books which every gentleman's library had to contain. But about 1860, the painters and sculptors began to get hold of the rich men, and pictures and statues began to take the place of books as evidences of wealth, and the hold of the author on him has ever since been steadily loosening. The æsthetic movement has loaded him with wood carving, china, Japanese ware, rugs, tapestry, bronzes, gems, and *bibelots* of all sorts, which call for every inch of room he has in his house, and tickle the pride of his wife and daughters as much as his own, which the books never did. Consequently he has ceased to be a book-buyer, and has become, either mildly or furiously, what is called a "collector." With literature in any sense of the word he has now little connection, except through the monthly reviews, and these his wife is more apt to read than he is. Of serious books he knows little more than the knights knew in the middle ages, and the "literary feller" stands to him very much in the position of the "clerk" at that period, as the possessor of a curious art, but one which was of little practical use, beyond occasionally keeping the possessor out of jail when brought up for felony.

BETWIXT GLADSTONE AND SALISBURY.

LONDON, July 15.

MR. GLADSTONE returned to town yesterday and proceeded to place himself, after his usual fashion, in relations with society by arranging a breakfast party for Saturday. Mr. Gladstone's breakfasts are institutions. There a guest may meet on occasion any one who is fortunate enough to excite his host's quick and universal curiosity, from the Comte de Paris and the Duc d'Aumale to Mr. Irving and Mr. Toole, Mme

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Sarah Bernhardt and Mme. Marie Rôze. But Mr. Gladstone's breakfasts are also political functions. They discharge a double office. Mr. Gladstone has adopted the system which in James II.'s time used to be known as *closeting*—that is to say, of talking over opponents one by one; and his breakfast table has been the counterpart of the King's withdrawing room. Dissenting ministers and Radical members arrived at Downing Street doubting and left it converted. But Mr. Gladstone needs to inform himself as well as to direct others. The late Lord Houghton, who had a high though a qualified regard for him, used to attribute to him the sin, which he deemed unpardonable in a politician, of never looking out of window. In a quatrain which has not, I believe, been published, but which he used occasionally to recite, he contrasted Mr. Gladstone as a statesman who knew mankind but did not know men, with Lord Beaconsfield as a statesman who knew men without knowing mankind. Mr. Gladstone has always, however, had about him men whose business it was to supplement his knowledge of mankind by a knowledge of men—to look out of window for him, to tell him what the men on the streets are saying. The late Mr. Abraham Hayward, *Quarterly Reviewer*, diarist, and diner-out, used to perform this function, and he did so with great skill and address. It may now be said to be in commission. To Mr. Gladstone, unfortunately, as in Lord Lyttelton's parody of the verses of Frederick Prince of Wales, that is the all-persuasive tongue which never puts him in the wrong.

No one, however, can tell Mr. Gladstone anything which even he can have failed to learn from the results of the elections. This discrimination between the classes and the masses (or them asses, as haughty Masherdom divides the words), has completely broken down. The classes and the masses have gone together in rejection of his scheme. They have not voted necessarily and in all cases against home rule, but in favor of the Parliamentary Union, which it was Mr. Gladstone's fault to put in jeopardy.

The Cabinet which is presently to assemble will probably have decided on the course to be taken before these lines reach you. The composition of a new ministry may be completed. Into whose hands soever the task of forming it may be committed, and whatever its individual constitution, the autumn is likely to see considerable changes in the personnel of English politics. It is not likely that even in the event of Mr. Gladstone's remaining in power, Lord Granville would continue at the Colonial Office, or would retain the Liberal leadership in the House of Lords. The sacrifice was great which led him on the formation of Mr. Gladstone's present Government to give up the Foreign Office to Lord Rosebery, and to return to the titularly equal but practically inferior post of Secretary for the Colonies. It was one of many surrenders which Lord Granville has generously made of legitimate personal pretensions to the exacting demands of Mr. Gladstone's policy and tactics, and to his personal ascendency. It was thought necessary to conciliate Prince Bismarck, and if possible to maintain with him the friendly understanding which Lord Salisbury had succeeded in establishing. A combination of Mr. Gladstone as Prime Minister with Lord Granville as Foreign Secretary would revive old controversies, or the bitter memory of them; and though Prince Bismarck's dislike is concentrated on Mr. Gladstone and scarcely extends to Lord Granville, still Mr. Gladstone was not removable and Lord Granville was.

"It is a great pity," said an Englishman to an intimate friend of Prince Bismarck, "that the Prince and Mr. Gladstone hate each other so much." "Bismarck does not hate Mr. Gladstone," was the uncompromising reply; "he despises him." The feeling is certainly misplaced, but it is real. Freudenstein, as Prince Bismarck playfully translates Mr. Gladstone's name, being no favorite of the German Chancellor's, and Lord Granville having been the instrument of Mr. Gladstone's policy, the expediency was obvious of finding another Foreign Minister. Lord Rosebery is a very intimate personal friend of Count Herbert Bismarck; he has become pleasantly known to the Prince himself during his visits to Berlin. His views as to the position of England in Europe are those rather of the Chatham, Canning, and Palmerston school of statesmanship than of the Peel, Aberdeen, and Gladstone type. His conception of the relation of England to her colonies is in almost precise antagonism to that of the author of 'Kin beyond the Sea.' In other words, Lord Rosebery was a sort of apology from Mr. Gladstone to Prince Bismarck, and was a very proper person to interpose between these two eminent and mutually uncongenial statesmen. Lord Rosebery's foreign policy has consisted hitherto in little more than in saying "Ditto" to Lord Salisbury, but he has made the remark an original one by the clearness and vigor with which he has uttered it. In the actual work of the Foreign Office he has won the not easily earned esteem of the permanent officials of that somewhat lofty-minded and disdainful department. He is a capital debater, fluent, ready, and witty, not the less acceptable in an assembly of elders for a certain boyish ingenuousness of manner and tone. In the event of Lord Granville's declining to face another Parliament as leader—and the long illness from which he is only now recovering makes this possibility only too probable—Lord Rosebery is marked out for the leadership. No doubt, Lord Kimberley and Lord Spencer have claims, and Lord Spencer has merits. Lord Kimberley, whose knowledge of all that belongs to the red-tape, the pen, ink, and paper, sealing-wax and wafer side of public business is minute and profound, and who possesses an inexhaustible flow of chatter called readiness in debate, is the reverse of an impressive person. Lord Spencer is business-like and sagacious; but his health is not strong; duty rather than inclination keeps him in public life, and he is little capable of coping in debate with Lord Salisbury or the Duke of Argyll. Lord Rosebery is therefore marked out for the Liberal leadership in the Lords should Lord Granville's retirement anticipate Lord Hartington's elevation to the peerage.

Whatever may be the Ministerial arrangements which will immediately follow on Mr. Gladstone's resignation, the Conservatives look forward with desire rather than with confidence to an ultimate coalition between Lord Hartington and Lord Salisbury. Lord Salisbury is not likely to repeat the experiment by which twelve months ago he united the office of Prime Minister with that of Foreign Secretary. His health broke down under the double strain, and it is not yet recovered. Lord Salisbury suffers from one of the most painful and irritating forms of gout—that in which it affects the skin. He is now visiting Royat-les-Bains, in Auvergne—a health resort formerly visited with happy effect by Sir Charles Dilke under similar conditions—and has declared that not even a Ministerial crisis will bring him back until the period of his treatment is over. Lord Salisbury, it is known, would willingly renounce his claims to the Premiership, now, or at some future date, taking the office of Foreign Secretary under Lord Hartington, as First Lord of the Treasury, if such an arrangement, could be effected. A similar arrangement, with practical equality between the two statesmen, was nearly brought about in 1784, when Fox all but consented to take the Foreign Secretaryship with a peerage and the leadership in the House of Lords, Pitt remaining in the Commons as Prime Minister. It was actually accomplished with a distribution of the parts between the two houses, when Fox in 1806 took the Foreign Secretaryship and leadership in the Commons, with Lord Grenville as First Lord of the Treasury in the Lords. But it is not likely that Lord Hartington, if he refuse to be a party to such an adjustment now, will afterwards be brought to assent to it. Mr. Gladstone alone divides the Liberal party. With every month that passes, the prospects of reconciliation and reunion increase. The cry of nature for repose will some day or other be heeded.

Literature is as silent at election times and during Ministerial crises as laws amid the clash of arms. The only two books of much note which have been announced—and the announcement of them is not new—are, a new volume of poems by Mr. Browning and the 'Life of Charles Darwin,' by his son Francis. With respect to the former, I may say, in correction of some current misstatements, that Mr. Browning's poem or poems—for there are two—are not yet in type or in the hands of the printer. They are still in manuscript and in his own desk. The two poems are on kindred subjects, such as would go well enough together, and the question of publishing them in one volume or apart has not yet been decided. They are not, as has been stated, upon any social topics. They do not turn on the elections, or on home rule, or on the patriotism or treason of Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Browning leaves that field to Mr. Swinburne and Lord Tennyson. Mr. Browning is always eager to have done with work that he has finished, to get it into the booksellers' shops and forget it, turning to some new performance unencumbered by the clinging manuscript of old poems. But though every season is bad for the publication of poetry, there is none so bad as election time. Mr. Browning, who is as young as he was in body and mind five and twenty years ago, is unfortunately detained in England from his favorite retreat of Gressoney St. Jean, by the illness of his sister, at one time serious, and from the palace in Venice which is being reconstructed for his own and his son's habitation, of whom, in spite of the promise of the younger man, one cannot yet say, as was said of the two Ramsays,

> "Names of equal note,
> Of whom one paints as well as t'other wrote."

The task of writing the life of Charles Darwin has been confided to the third of his five sons, Francis Darwin, who, in association with his elder and better-known brother, George, now the Plumian Professor of Astronomy at Cambridge, assisted his father in the researches which occupied his later years, and in the preparation of the works in which those researches were embodied. Mr. Francis Darwin, who is, like his grandfather and great-grandfather, the celebrated Erasmus, a physician by profession, though he does not practise, resides at Cambridge, being a Trinity man, like most of his family through generations. He is the author of papers on botanical subjects, and in conjunction with Mr. George Darwin has been engaged in experimental researches in the Cavendish laboratory there, the value of which has been acknowledged by his election as a Fellow of the Royal Society. Mr. F. Darwin's tastes have directed him to those studies in natural history which are especially connected with his father's name and fame, whereas Mr. George Darwin has directed himself mainly to astronomical and physical inquiries. In this fact probably lies the reason of the former's selection as the biographer of his father.

K.

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Correspondence.

MR. SCHUYLER ON AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Pray allow me a word with regard to the accusation brought against me by Mr. W. H. Smith in a recent number of the *Dial*, and commented on in the *Evening Post* of June 11. I stated in my 'American Diplomacy,' page 8, referring to Mr. Washburne, that in six days he "removed the greater number of consular and diplomatic officers," and "filled their places with new and inexperienced men, appointed solely for partisan political services." Mr. Smith quotes my enumeration (on page 86) of 707 consular officials, denies my statement, and asserts that Mr. Washburne made only three or four foreign appointments.

If we exclude the consular clerks, who are irremovable, and the consular agents, who are appointed by the consuls and not by the State Department, we shall find in 1869 about 300 consuls and commercial agents appointed by the President. But of these more than one hundred did not receive compensation either by salary or fees amounting to $1,000 per annum, and are of too little importance to be considered. There were then about 200 consular officers with a salary of $1,000 or over, and about 50 diplomatic officers. In using the words "greater number" I did not have in mind a mere numerical majority, but meant the "more important." I should certainly have expressed my meaning better if I had said "removed the chief and most important officers, and those whose salaries seemed to promise lucrative positions."

But even here I may be wrong; and if I am wrong, I shall gladly alter the statement and apologize to Mr. Washburne for having made it. I must admit that I trusted to my memory without verifying my very strong impression on the subject. Exact verification is difficult. It would be possible to obtain from the State Department the dates of the commissions, but these are no criterion of the dates of the original nominations to the Senate. Those are filed away in the Senate archives. But, while impossible for me at this distance, it would be easy for any of your readers who is interested to verify my statement roughly by the lists of the nominations sent to the Senate between March 4 and March 12, 1869, published in the chief New York daily papers of the time. By those lists I am willing to abide.

May I, in turn, make two or three observations on your criticism of my book in your number for June 10? I nowhere state, as my critic represents, "that the management of our foreign relations involves a grave departure from constitutional theory," nor do I imply that the change in the working of our Government has had any appreciable effect on the methods of the State Department. Quite the contrary. It is because Congressional leaders have as yet devised no way of undermining and counteracting the old and essential functions of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of the Treasury that those officers still form part of the real inside working Government. It is because these two secretaries still possess independent powers that their offices seem to me better worth studying than the more clerical and administrative duties of the War, Navy, and Interior Departments. Every branch, however, of our Government demands exposition, and none more so at the present time than the offices of the First and Second Comptrollers, and the evolution of these nominally subordinate officials of the Treasury Department into uncontrolled, independent officers; judges who decide without a hearing and from whom there is no appeal; who are able, if so disposed, to stop all the wheels of government.

Further on, by a partial quotation and by a misapprehension of what I wrote, my critic makes me seem to approve of abolishing the diplomatic service and of intrusting diplomatic duties to consular officers. I really stated exactly the reverse, and thought that my meaning was clear. My whole book is intended to show the necessity of a diplomatic service, and I endeavored to make plain the distinction between conferring consular functions upon diplomatic officers, of which I approve, and of intrusting diplomatic duties to consular officers, which does not seem to me feasible or advantageous.

I may add here that within the last few weeks the Italian Government has decided to suppress its consuls at St. Petersburg, Belgrade, Shanghai, Yokohama, and Tangier, when the consular duties will be performed by a secretary of legation or a clerk. It is proposed to transfer the seat of the legation in China from Pekin to Shanghai.

I must confess that I do not understand the references in the final paragraph of your criticism to the "ponderous volume of instructions." The last edition of the 'Personal Instructions to the Diplomatic Agents of the United States' (1885) is a foolscap pamphlet of seventy-seven pages, of which twenty-four are forms, index, etc., and relates chiefly to accounts, the forms of despatches, and to special duties imposed by our laws and the regulations of the Department. This pamphlet is considered confidential, as I stated on page 132, and I should therefore say that the edition of which I speak was published after I left the service, and was never officially communicated to me. The 'Consular Regulations,' a small octavo volume of about 600 pages, two-thirds of which is taken up with extracts from treaties and the Revised Statutes, and with the necessary forms for consular acts, consists of the instructions issued at various times by the State Department, which, owing to the requirements of our laws, are sometimes very minute and detailed. The book is not only useful but necessary to even the most experienced consular officer. It is similar to the consular handbooks of other countries, whether they are published officially by the Government or privately by one of the officials (as in England); but it is better than these, and, instead of exciting "amazement," calls out the admiration of foreign diplomats and consuls for its method and thoroughness.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

EUGENE SCHUYLER.

ALASSIO, July 2.

[At Mr. Schuyler's request, we have ourselves examined the files of the daily papers for March, 1869, expecting to find some confirmation of the statement about Secretary Washburne's appointments, as this has been a very general belief. To our surprise, between the dates specified (March 4-12), but a single nomination was reported from the Department of State. Moreover, on March 10, the *Tribune* correspondent at Washington telegraphed: "Secretary Washburne to-day stated an interesting fact in reply to the personal application of an office-seeker. He said he should make no appointments whatever while he remained in office, and that he could only receive the papers and place them on file; that his stay in the Department would be limited to a few days, and he did not intend to interfere in the question of appointments in that Department." No nominations were, in fact, forthcoming up to March 17, when the same correspondent reported Mr. Washburne formally relieved by Mr. Fish's taking the oath of office, nor, with a single exception, until April 3, when three nominations were sent to the Senate, and there were no more till April 12, when the weightier appointments of Motley, Curtin, Jay, etc., with others, to the number of thirteen in all (making eighteen to date), were handed in. Further we have not searched.—ED. NATION.]

THE COUNT OF PARIS AND THE PANAMA CANAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: It would be rather curious if the Panama Canal affair were to end in placing the Count of Paris on the French throne; yet things much more unlikely have come to pass.

The canal shares are still at par, kept there by Lesseps's wonderful prestidigitation. The collapse must come, and Leroy-Beaulieu predicts that the resulting financial panic will be greater than anything that the world has seen since the time of Law. Great numbers of intelligent Frenchmen feel that the republic is a failure. It has made a vast expenditure of treasure and blood, and has very little indeed to show for it either in Tunis, Tonquin, or Madagascar. It expels royalist leaders, but fears in any way to molest the anarchists. The status of the municipality of Paris is a continual danger. There exists a widespread dissatisfaction and uneasiness to which the maladroit Government has virtually presented a leader and chief in the person of the Count of Paris. Now let a great financial crisis come in which multitudes of small investors in canal shares find their ruin result from the collapse of an undertaking sanctioned and promoted by the republican Government, and what is more probable than that that Government, already weakened in the affections of the French people, should be overturned for the benefit of the Count of Paris? M. C. LEA.

BAR HARBOR, ME., July 18, 1886.

COMPARATIVE POLITICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Having drawn one illustration from Great Britain, I should like to take another from France. There has been nothing finer in history, hardly even excepting our Constitutional Convention, than the way in which, after the fall of the Second Empire, the country rallied its force, elected an assembly, paid the fine, and got the Germans out of the country. It was done, as in the case of Washington and Victor Emmanuel, by following a leader, Thiers, and there is something deeply pathetic in the history of his struggles to hold the jarring elements together. But after his death executive power began rapidly to decline. The Chamber was broken up into groups, the finances managed by a budget committee, weak ministries continually falling from power; while the President, M. Grévy, seems to think his duties are summed up in self-effacement. As always happens, the control of the Chamber falls into the hands of the most violent and irresponsible portion. One fatal step was the removal from Versailles to Paris. Just as the Jacobins got control of the old Legislative Assembly, so the leaders of the Paris mob are again slowly but surely getting the upper hand. The expulsion of the Princes, the quarrel with the Church, the treatment of the strike at Decazeville, are unmistakable symptoms. The Comte de Paris sees what is coming, and his manifesto is a bid for the succession, but he has probably

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too little vigor and too much scruple. The talk about Gen. Boulanger has something of the old flavor of Bonaparte, but there is a long gap yet. The prize is almost inevitably awaiting some military adventurer; but that does not prove that the country wants him, or that France does not prefer peace and economy to the hazards and disasters of military rule. It only proves that she has not learned to organize executive power strong enough to hold a legislature in check without dispersing it by force of arms.

It will be said, "But France has what you so earnestly plead for—a responsible Ministry, with seats in the Chamber." Very true; but observe that they are too much responsible to the Chamber and too little to the nation. The English have learned by two centuries of practice to carry on a ministerial executive system which is directly responsible only to Parliament, and only indirectly to the people. Even there the danger of Parliamentary usurpation is manifesting itself. But in France the system is clearly unworkable. Not even the President is elected by the people, while the Ministers are the mere tools of Parliamentary faction. In Germany we see a Minister who holds his own in spite of Parliamentary defeats, and the result is at least favorable to steadiness of administration. It is an interesting illustration of putting the veto where it belongs—with the legislature and not with the executive. God forbid that I should hold up the German empire to imitation! But there is a vast difference between an irresponsible, divine-right, bayonet-supported Emperor and a President elected, in effect directly, by 10,000,000 of votes of a free people. I have a strong conviction that there is something splendid ahead of us in a President supporting his Cabinet against an adverse Congress, until both sides carry the issue, fully discussed and defined, to the impartial tribunal of the national will. But unless we do provide for this, unless we furnish to the executive some means of holding a domineering legislature in check, the warning is as plain as the handwriting on the wall at Belshazzar's feast. What French Chamber was ever more impotent, more completely in the hands of factious intrigue, than Congress has been during the last session? Certainly the circumstances and the character of the people are vastly different, but this does not change the principle. Anarchy has led us once into civil war already. How many such experiments the country can stand may be a question. They will, however, be much worse in the form of social disintegration than of sectional secession, and that sooner or later they must come, with the present state of things, is as certain as any demonstration in mathematics.

G. B.

Boston, July 24, 1886.

THE MORRISON SURPLUS BILL.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: As a Democrat, I have no desire to deny your impeachment of the Democratic party for its financial heresy, as shown in its support of the Morrison resolution. That the execution of this measure would be a public calamity, there is little room for doubt; and it is fortunate that the President and the Treasury Department can be relied upon to use all their power against it. An analysis of the vote, however, shows that the friends of sound financial legislation have more to contend with than the Democratic Congressmen. A majority of the Republican votes were cast in favor of the measure; and of more than fifty Republican votes from Western States, only six were cast against it. How the Senate will deal with the matter will have been decided before this is in print, but it will be remembered that that body has already demonstrated its unsoundness on the silver question.

It seems to be the opinion of the *Nation*, and is probably the opinion of Eastern men in general, that Western and Southern Congressmen are misrepresenting the people of their districts in their action on this question. It would be fortunate if this were so, but it is a mistaken view of the case. If the Morrison resolution could be submitted to a vote of the people, the South and West would give an overwhelming majority in its favor. There is no ground for comfort in the fact that "Bill Allen" was defeated in Ohio in 1875, on a soft-money platform. That vote has no significance as a test of the opinion of Ohio on the silver question. Outside of the New England and Middle States, the popular feeling in favor of the silver dollar is probably stronger today than when the Silver Bill was passed. It may as well be recognized that there is a long, hard fight ahead of us, and it will be fortunate indeed if the masses can be won over to the support of sound currency without going through the ordeal of financial disaster. W.

Parkersburg, W. Va., July 23.

THE AMERICAN SCHOOL AT ATHENS ONCE MORE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: The letters of Prof. Goodwin and Mr. Fowler in reply to mine on the American School at Athens differ in the sense of their attacks on it, and to a certain extent are opposed to each other. Prof. Goodwin does not in the main disagree with me in the designation of the end to be attained, but he takes exception "to the spirit in which it is done." If by this he means that this spirit is one of anything but good will towards the School, I would gladly have had him express his idea more definitely, that I might repudiate it more formally. As for Mr. Fowler's letter, I can only say that his opinions on the School have the *prima-facie* relation to mine that those of an undergraduate of a university may have to those of a man who has watched classes come and go, and seen them in and out of the school bounds. I have had the good fortune to be a good deal in Athens, and to have been there at various periods of the School's existence, hearing what is said by disinterested outsiders about it and its work and prospects. I have heard, too, the evidence of a number of its pupils. The letter of Mr. Fowler, as a reply to mine, is, to borrow his own phrase, "simply absurd." Simultaneously with the *Nation* which contains these letters came to me here a private letter from an American scholar, who has every right to express an opinion on the School at Athens and its work, saying how glad he was I had written the letter, and "wishing only that you had spoken in stronger terms about the recent management."

In reply to Prof. Goodwin's implied accusation of my motives in writing, I can only say, as I have always said, that I most earnestly desire the advancement and pecuniary prosperity of the School, and am at all times ready to do what I can, if I can do anything, to contribute to its prosperity. But it is useless to attempt to conceal that I regard the recent management to have been carried on on wrong lines, and such as will not lead the School to success so soon as a sounder policy might. I will not attempt to discuss Greek grammar or education in ancient or modern Greek with Prof. Goodwin or any of his colleagues, but I am capable of forming the opinion, from what I see of education, that the especial object to be gained, and the only one, so far as I can see, by having a School of Classical Studies *at Athens* is to give the students a chance to study archæology in a practical way; because, as I have said before, Greek grammer may be better learned at a German university or at Oxford. And this I do not say with any disparagement of the admirable Hellenists who have been delegated by the managers of the School to conduct it, but simply because, in the nature of things, it is not merely what a veteran literary Greek scholar can give that is wanted to conduct this School at Athens to such a position as will command support by showing success of a practical kind, but the demonstration that something can be done for American culture there which cannot be done elsewhere. And as to this the testimony of the students whom I have known is almo t unanimously negative. And, if Prof. Goodwin will permit me to say it, his statement of "my principal argument" (paragraph 1 of his letter) is a *reductio ad absurdum* which sins by absurdity. His consequence is neither implied in my words nor involved in my opinion. There is no necessary connection between Greek scholarship as such (excluding epigraphy, of which I hold the absolute necessity) and the study of archæology. I know some very clever archæologists who are not good Greek scholars, and I know at least one admirable Greek scholar who detests archæology.

Now, I believe this plan of sending directors to the School for one year a mistake which is fatal not only to the progress of the School itself, but to its securing the public support which will follow its having gained any ever so slight distinction in that special ground for which Athens, as a *locus standi*, is peculiarly fitted, and for which, therefore, the managers can appeal to the general public for support. The whole cultured world is to a certain extent interested in Greek archæology and its results—in museums and a knowledge of ancient art; while the number of those who are interested in the progress of Greek literature is comparatively small, and less able, or disposed, to give. You begin to teach a child to swim by putting him into water, and you make archæologists by teaching archæology; and it is only, in my opinion, by a school of actual archæology, achieving some results which shall confer honor on the American name, that that enthusiasm will be excited which is the only efficient patron of the higher culture in America. Therefore, I say that the first thing to be done to win public support is to put at the head of an archæological school at Athens some one whose position there *is*, and is likely to become *still more so*, a matter of national pride; and so far as I know, or so far as the general opinion of archæologists whom I know goes, Dr. Sterrett is the only man we have who occupies this position. And I much mistake my countrymen if an appeal for funds to prevent this brilliant scholar, who has already won himself a European reputation in the most difficult branch of archæology, from being relegated to the obscurity of a Western college, instead of being put at the head of a (in some sense) national institution, would not bring in more contributions to the funds of the School than the project for a building of which the ostensible use excites no enthusiasm. You cannot excite enthusiasm in the American public for an abstraction. One brilliant discovery in things tangible and comprehensible, and which serve to raise the American national pride, will call out more contributions than the making a dozen good Greek scholars, even if this could only be done at Athens.

"There is," says Prof. Goodwin, "little or no real difference of opinion between Mr. Stillman and the managers of the School as to the ideal to be aimed at," but there is immense difference between our opinions as to what is to be done to realize that ideal. The managers apparently propose to go on with the plan at present followed, until funds offer enough to endow a permanent directorship; but the object of endowing an

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indefinite and permanent directorship is far less likely, *me judice*, to attract the support of the public than that of keeping a man who honors the country in a position to increase that honor and emphasize our position among cultured nations. My plan is, then, to secure the proper head to the School and then appeal to American public spirit to support him; and this, I believe, would not only give the fund, but also construct the school building, if the funds for that were to be asked for still. The conclusion which might be drawn by outsiders asked to contribute is (I am not supposing that there is any such plan), that it is intended to secure a fund which may be devoted to putting some person indifferent to the contributors into a permanent comfortable position where no public sentiment is gratified by seeing him; and as the success of the present system has not been all that is needed, I suggest that a change be tried. My acquaintance with Dr. Sterrett is very slight, and there must be many scholars who know him far better than I do, and who are better able to recommend him; but I am in a position to know that his appointment as the head of the School at Athens would give it at once a European recognition which, in my opinion, it could not expect in a long time with any other head that I know of.

I was informed at Athens, and by the head of the Archæological Department of the Ministry of Instruction, that a new archæological law will be introduced this winter (one which I have for years labored for in Greece, and as a friend of Greece), which will facilitate excavations for foreign societies, museums, etc., and permit the retention and exportation of such of the objects found as are not necessary to the completion of the history of Greek civilization. If we might greet this enlargement of Greek liberalism by an appropriate appeal to American patriotism, it would give every American interested in classical culture (and me not the least) a pleasure which Greek literature will be long in furnishing; and I mistake my countrymen if this appeal for Dr. Sterrett's retention in that field would not be a success. He is a poor man, and has already expended all he possessed, and contracted debts in his researches. He cannot refuse a professorate should he not see his way open to some more congenial position to which he is entitled. My practical opinion is that it were better to devote the money raised (if the giving made it possible) to the support of a permanent head, even if it be not Dr. Sterrett, than to the building of which there is no absolute need, while of the head there is. These are the general and particular grounds for my difference with the managers of the School, not any want of interest in it.

Yours truly, W. J. Stillman.

THE INTELLECTUAL WOMAN.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Apropos of the interesting letter of "E. R. S.," entitled, "Why Not Make Her an Intellectual Woman?" I heard a remark the other day of a lady connected with Vassar College that is worth considering. Said she: "Do you know one cause of the many divorces nowadays among Americans? It is this: the husband, coming constantly in contact with the world, with men of business, men of ideas, men of inventions, and with the new ideas in the newspapers, magazines, etc., is constantly *growing* intellectually; while the wife, confined within her narrow circle at home, remains *stationary;* and the husband *grows away* from her, and finally is compelled to leave her. How often you find wives complaining that their husbands are taken up with their books, and have not a word for them. This is because the wives don't care for what the books contain; they have no liking nor knowledge of these things, and their husbands find nothing to say to them. Now, let our young women get a good classical education, and this complaint will cease; their husbands *will never grow away from them.*"

Robert Waters.

West Hoboken, July 30, 1886.

"WOMAN IN MUSIC."

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: I am very glad that Philip Hale, your correspondent whose letter appeared in the *Nation* of July 22, has replied to some statements which were published in the *Nation* June 17, in a review of Mr. Upton's 'Woman in Music.' Your correspondent not only places the women composers of France in their true light, but he gives to French musicians their just praise: a distinction too seldom accorded them by critics living at a distance from Paris. It is to be regretted that the French performers and composers are so little known and consequently unappreciated.

Among the galaxy of talented composers of Paris to-day Mlle. Augusta Holmès is recognized for her ability and originality. I lived in Paris the year Mlle. Holmès entered "Les Argonautes" in the "concours de la ville de Paris." M. Ernest Giraud, the composer, told me that Mlle. Holmès's poems and musical composition indicated great talent and originality, but he considered her style as somewhat *bizarre*, and, in her effort for musical "effects," she used an exaggerated manner of composition. This meant that Mlle. Holmès had departed from the more frequented path of rule and tradition. However, this has often before been the course of genius.

The compositions of all the competitors had been thrown aside, excepting two, "Les Argonautes" and "La Tempête"; the judges were slow to decide to which of the two candidates the prize should be awarded. Paris was excited over the delay, and the daily papers were full of the "concours." If I remember correctly, Mlle. Holmès failed by only one or two votes to obtain the "prix du concours." It was given to M. Duvernoy, the author of "La Tempête." The city of Paris voted a sum of money for the performance of Mlle. Holmès's work, a worthy testimony of the respect in which her composition was held.

I should like to add to the list of women composers the name of a young musician of this city, Miss Helen A. Clarke. This young lady is not only a distinguished pianist, but a composer of more than usual promise. She has written charming songs, and piano pieces of decided merit. Recently she composed a sonata for piano and violoncello, which discloses the artist's knowledge of counterpoint and melody. This sonata was performed in public a season ago by Miss Clarke and Mr. Charles Schmidt.

The reviewer of Mr. Upton's book says: "But perhaps the chief reason of woman's failure lies in the fact that music is an impersonal art." Impersonality is a quality that either man or woman should possess in order to succeed in any line of intellectual labor, whether artistic or scientific. It depends in a measure upon the kind of education the person receives, if his or her mind regards things personally or impersonally. The physical sciences are the best means of cultivating the intellect to think on any subject impersonally. The introduction of scientific studies into women's schools and colleges will have telling results, and we may prophesy that the ranks in all departments of science, philosophy, and art will be crowded with women thinkers.

The position of woman, with few exceptions, for centuries has not been one to develop her intellectual faculties to their fullest extent, and until the influence of the present educational advantages are felt, it is premature to claim personality or impersonality as the exclusive property of one or the other sex, or to advance the thought that impersonality is a sex distinction and the cause of the fundamental difference between men and women composers.

The great Novalis says: "Effort is towards the higher; man's effort is towards woman; and woman's towards—what?" In reply, it can be said that woman's effort is certainly not towards the personality incorporated in mankind, but to those lofty peaks of Spinoza and to the impersonal. "And though the way thereto be steep, yet it may be found: all things excellent are as difficult as they are rare."—Yours truly,

Helen C. De S. Abbott.

1509 Locust St., Philadelphia, Pa., July 22, 1886.

Notes.

Frederick Warne & Co. will issue in the fall an entirely new edition of Napier's 'Peninsula War,' in six volumes, uniform with their Chandos Edition of 'Knight's Half-Hours'; also, in the "Chandos Classics," a new edition of 'Sháh Námeh of Firdausi,' carefully revised by the Rev. J. A. Atkinson, M.A., son of the original translator.

Henry Holt & Co. signalize a new invention in flexible cloth book covers by starting "The Leisure Season Series," of which the initial volume will be Miss McClelland's 'Oblivion,' borrowed from "The Leisure Hour Series." No. 2 will be a new novel, by Thomas Wharton, author of 'A Latter-Day Saint.'

Cupples, Upham & Co., Boston, have in press 'The Winnipeg Country; or, Roughing It with an Eclipse Party,' illustrated with heliotypes, wood-engravings, and a map. They will also publish, by arrangement with the *Pall Mall Gazette*, a third pamphlet edition of 'The Best Hundred Books.'

'An Introduction to the Study of Robert Browning's Poetry,' by Prof. Hiram Corson, of Cornell, is announced by D. C. Heath & Co., Boston. A bibliography of Browning criticism will be given in an appendix.

Our readers will remember an entertaining account by our French correspondent of the recently published life of Éléonore d'Olbreuze (*Nation*, Nos. 1038 and 1040). This interesting work, by the Viscount Horric de Beaucaire, has been translated and published in handsome form by Remington & Co., London (New York: Scribner & Welford), under the title 'A Mésalliance in the House of Brunswick.' This French girl, maid of honor to the Princesse de Tarente, married Duke George William of Zell, and was mother of Sophia Dorothea, Queen of George I. of England. The "mésalliance" is therefore an event of considerable historical importance, seeing that from it are sprung the royal families of England and of Prussia. The translation is in general easy and idiomatic, but is marred by the persistent use of French forms and titles and even of mixtures of French and English. We have "Georges-Guillaume, Duke de Zell," while on his brother, "Duc Ernest-Auguste," becoming titular Bishop of Osnabrück, we are told that "M. d'Osnabruck and Madame l'Evéque left Hanover, etc." So we have (p. 16) the "Elector de Brandebourg," and the statement that "all the counties north of the Elbe, the Hante, and the Basse-Saxe of the Bavière belonged" in olden time to the House of Brunswick. What this means we are really at a loss to understand.

The Superintendent of the New York Department of Public Instruction is establishing at Albany a permanent educational exhibit, to which nothing comes amiss in the shape of text-books, periodicals, reports, school apparatus—even pho-

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tographs of prominent educators and school-buildings. Everything received will be duly labelled and preserved.

The collection of geographical apparatus made by the Royal Geographical Society, and exhibited in London, Manchester, and now in Edinburgh, has awakened much interest in the subject of geographical education in England. The Society, through its President, the Marquis of Lorne, in his annual address published in the July Proceedings, proposes to do still more to promote proper methods of instruction, principally by courses of lectures. It is also suggested that a "travelling scholarship be offered every year alternately to Oxford and Cambridge, to be awarded, under suitable conditions, to a graduate who has shown marked ability in geographical subjects, and who may desire to visit some little-known district, and communicate the results of his explorations in physical and historical geography to the Society." During the past year fifteen intending travellers have received instruction in surveying and mapping, to which subjects are henceforth to be added geology, botany, and photography. The only paper in this number of the Proceedings is by Mr. Farini, descriptive of his journey in the Kalahari Desert.

The principal paper in the *Scottish Geographical Magazine* for July is an interesting account of the Portuguese district of Tette, on the upper Zambesi, by Mr. W. Montagu Kerr. A melancholy picture is given of the once prosperous city of Tette, which is now in ruins and almost deserted, save by its garrison. Commerce, under the twofold influence of the failure of the ivory supply through the extinction of the elephants and the suppression of the slave-trade, has almost ceased. The country generally has fallen into the hands of half-castes, who are practically independent, and plunder indiscriminately all travellers and traders. Mr. Kerr discovered some regions very rich in gold, though he discourages any attempt on the part of Europeans to utilize this discovery. To the opposition of the natives and the scarcity of water must be added a still greater obstacle in the tsetse fly, which "swarms to an incredible extent" and renders the region practically inaccessible for wagons. In the Geographical Notes of this magazine, which begins its second volume with the present number, the highest mountain in Massachusetts is printed "Grey Cock," for Greylock—an obvious printer's error.

The August *Art Journal* (New York: International News Company) has a full supplement illustrating the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, which is now one of the sights of London. The photographic engravings of carved screens, wares, and stuffs are very effective.

Perhaps the most important paper in the *Antiquary* for June is the opening one, by Mr. J. J. Foster, "on some miniature painters and enamellists who have flourished in England." It is illustrated with portraits of two of these painters. Mr. J. H. Round, in "Is Mr. Freeman accurate?" points out, as he has done before, certain mistakes of detail made by Mr. Freeman in his deductions from Domesday Book. Mr. Round has proved his point, but has not, it seems to us, seriously impugned Mr. Freeman's accuracy on the whole. A rather long illustrated article on the Streets of Derby belongs to a class of papers of great value and interest. The July number is rather a dry one, and contains very little of interest for American readers.

The July Bulletin of the Library Company of Philadelphia contains a supplement to its January Bibliography of the Regimental Histories of the Civil War. A second appendix gives a list of books on trees and forestry.

Polybiblion for May has the following item: "The *Nation* announces that a sum of fifteen thousand dollars has just been given to Harvard University at Baltimore for the foundation of a chair of political economy"!

M. Jules Verne, without discontinuing his contributions to the *Magazin d'Éducation et de Récréation*, is publishing a story in the *Journal des Débats*, called "Robur le Conquérant." The scene so far is laid in the United States, in Philadelphia, which city M. Verne duly praises, giving details or rather general statements of American life calculated to edify French boys and to surprise Americans as novelties. The new story, though given as the *feuilleton* of a very serious paper, is, judging from the first numbers, not addressed to older readers than those for whom this entertaining author usually writes.

M. Alphonse Daudet is still busy with his dramatization of 'Numa Roumestan,' which is to be entitled "Nord et Midi." He has already read the first three acts to M. Porel, *directeur* of the Odéon, where it is to be produced. The play is to conform to the novel except in its political aspect, which M. Daudet considers an obstacle in the way of seeing clearly "le vrai roman psychologique et social, le fond philosophique des choses." The political accessories will be replaced by something with which the author declares himself to be extremely well pleased, but which he does not make public. It will be interesting to see how M. Daudet will transform the ardent legitimist, Numa Roumestan, who, in spite of his politics, was said to be a portrait of Gambetta, into a non-political personage.

The project of M. Carvalho, director of the Opéra Comique, for a lyric drama by Gounod, taken from Alfred de Musset's 'On ne badine pas avec l'amour,' has met with a sudden check. The sister of the poet, Mme. Lardin de Musset, refuses to authorize any adaptation from her brother's works. This is not the first time that the family of Alfred de Musset have interposed when there was a question of interference with their rights. For many years they would not allow the publication of selections from his poems, however limited. In certain cases only one poem, the beautiful stanzas, "À la Malibran," was all that was allowed to appear in collections of French poetry. But now (July 8) the *Débats* says that while Mme. Lardin de Musset has renewed her objections to the proposed work, she has said that she would make no opposition to the representation of another opera taken from her brother's works, which has been ready for a number of years. This is "Carmosine," which M. Paul de Musset authorized M. Poise to set to music, and regarding which the *Voltaire* quotes M. Poise as saying that it is the joint work of himself and of Paul de Musset.

The work of the eminent critic and publicist, M. J. J. Weiss, on Germany and Alsace-Lorraine is very different in its tone from the numerous other French books that have been issued of late on the same subject. Fragments published in the Paris journals are sufficient to show that the author has not been blinded by his patriotism. The work is entitled 'Au Pays du Rhin' (Paris: Charpentier).

A very important publication is the first complete French translation of Schopenhauer's 'Le Monde comme Volonté et comme Représentation,' in two thick 8vo volumes. The translator is M. J. A. Cantacuzène, and the work is published simultaneously in Leipzig, Paris, and Bucarest (New York: Christern). We have lately done justice to this masterpiece in the case of the English version.

M. Schuré has just published a second edition of his recent work upon Wagner, 'Le Drame musical' (Paris: Perrin; 2 vols.), to which he has added a chapter upon "Parsifal."

M. Catulle Mendès has recently published a volume, 'Richard Wagner' (Paris: Charpentier), in which he speaks with enthusiasm of the creations of the master, both in their musical and literary aspects, and gives interesting details of his own personal relations with him.

The seventh volume of the *Annuaire de la Presse française* still bears on the title-page the name of Émile Mermet, who died just before the completion of the volume for 1884. The present volume is introduced by M. Alexandre Hepp. Though slightly increased in size, it does not keep the promises of previous years. The *Annuaire* gives a complete list and a summary description of the various French newspapers and periodicals, 1,540 in Paris and 2,819 in the rest of France. Of these 505 are designated as "nouveaux journaux," of which some are merely titles legally registered, and many are destined never to appear, or to die after a few numbers. After a few very scanty notes on the foreign press, only twenty-one English papers being mentioned, and three American, the latter part of the volume is taken up by generally very interesting articles, selected from the best contributions to the daily newspapers, avoiding political and religious subjects. Under the headings, "Littérature et Beaux-Arts" and "Le Théâtre" the selections are so made as to give a fair idea of the principal events of the year as presented by the leading critics who write for the Paris papers under their own signatures. A large number of advertisements, all relating to newspapers and book-making, swell the volume to more than a thousand pages.

Señora Emilia Pardo Bazan has been called a "Catholic Spanish Naturalist." Besides fiction she has written critical works of various kinds. One of these, entitled 'Cuestion palpitante,' aims to make the Spanish public acquainted with the state of naturalism or realism in France and England. This has just been translated into French by M. Albert Sabine: 'Le Naturalisme' (Paris: Giraud).

The 'Vita di Giuseppe Mazzini,' written by Signora J. W. Mario (Milan: Edoardo Sonzogno), is now completed. It makes a quarto volume of 500 pages, very freely illustrated on a large scale, and sold for ten francs. It has been with the author emphatically a labor of love.

Brockhaus, the Leipzig publisher, announces, as in preparation, a collected edition of the works of Moritz Carriere, the well-known writer upon philosophic and æsthetic subjects. It is estimated that the writings on the philosophy of the beautiful and the history of art will occupy the first nine volumes. They will be followed by the works treating of the history of philosophy, religion, and ethics.

Germany (*Deutschland*) and things German have full swing in the fourth volume of 'Meyer's Konversations-Lexikon,' fourth edition (Westermann), occupying some 180 pages with the several divisions of literature, history, etc. These articles are accompanied by a corresponding abundance of maps of Germany—physical, geological, political for many epochs; maps of Jew, Catholic, and Protestant, and of simple density of population. China and Denmark likewise receive due attention, and are mapped in turn. The Congo Free State is delineated and essentially described. Among general topics, Cholera, Darwinism, and Steam take the lead in point of fulness. President Cleveland is of course included in the list of the world's notables, though the bare facts of his rapid rise to eminence are all that is given here. Under Henry Clay we notice that Mr. Carl Schurz's forthcoming Life of that statesman is set down as already published in 1885, and as if among the authorities either consultable or consulted.

With Part 38 of the popular 'Allgemeine Weltgeschichte' of Flathe, Hertzberg, Justi, etc.

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(Berlin: Grote; New-York: Westermann) is begun a History of the Middle Ages, by Dr. Julius von Pflugk-Harttung, which is to form the fourth volume of the series. This and the three succeeding parts are rich in curious illustrations of weapons, implements, ornaments, buildings, manners and customs, etc.

Of the 'Allgemeinde Naturkunde' (Westermann) we have now sixteen more parts (25 to 40), in which Man is concluded and Geology begun. They present an extraordinary array of engravings and chromo-lithographs, of a high order of excellence, and drawn (for the geological chapters) from a great variety of sources. Our own country furnishes its share of marvellous formations, but has little to offer to the section on volcanoes, which is exceptionally rich in photographic and other records possessing a singular interest.

A critical history of Russian literature ('Geschichte der russischen Litteratur von ihren ersten Anfängen bis auf die neueste Zeit—1886'), by Alexander von Reinholdt, has just been published at Leipzig by Wilhelm Friedrich (New York: Christern).

A valuable addition to the existing collections of Russian folk-songs will be furnished by E. Romanoff's work on the popular poetry of White Russia, the first volume of which has recently been published at Kiev. White Russia has not been very thoroughly studied, up to the present date, and several early collectors of folk-lore were beguiled into publishing spurious productions. Beszonoff's collection (1871) and Schein's (1874) are the most trustworthy thus far published, but Mr. Romanoff's will be on a much larger scale, embracing four volumes. They are divided, as is customary in such books, under certain heads; but the author discovered too late that most of the songs were not only appropriated to certain seasons of the year and ceremonies, but were also set for particular days. It is thought that if this discovery is followed up diligently it may throw light upon the customs of pre-Christian worship, with which these songs were connected, and which have not yet lost their significance for the White Russian of to-day. It is intended to include in the collection some specimens of a legendary nature dating from the eighteenth century, which are partly of literary, partly of popular origin.

While the Serb nation has been, of late years, rather overactive in the use of arms—fighting not only the Turks in a legitimate warfare for independence, but also the kindred Bulgarians in opposition to their equally legitimate efforts to secure freedom and unity—the cultivators of Serb literature have not been idle either. Among other institutions of national culture, the stage has received praiseworthy attention, and it is almost surprising to find that classical dramatic works of the Teutonic nations are favorite plays of the South Slavic race. Not only Schiller's "Mary Stuart" and "Don Carlos," Shakspere's "Romeo and Juliet" and "Othello," and similar dramas, are acted in the Serbo-Croat idiom on the stages of Belgrade, Agram, and Neusatz (in Hungary), but Goethe's "Faust" has recently also been produced in the Serb theatre of the last-named city. The translation, in the metre of the original, is from the pen of Dr. Milan Savić, a novelist of repute.

—The account of Detroit in the August *Harper's* is hardly up to the high average of the series of monographs on American cities which is now one of the excellent features of the magazine. In its architectural appearance, the general expression in its streets and squares of public spirit and of private wealth and thrift, and in the beauty of its natural surroundings (especially its admirable park), Detroit offered one of the finest subjects, while its history is long and attractive, and has an individuality altogether exceptional in the West, and its business development furnishes an excellent example of safe enterprise. One misses in the article, though it is by no means a failure, the sense of the material interests of the city, and of what, for lack of a better term, must be called local patriotism—that indefinable sentiment which brings out and gives value to provincial details, as they are felt by a village antiquarian, for example; of this color the paper has none. Of the things in Detroit, past and present, the author seems best acquainted with C. B. Lewis's ("M. Quad") office: and, of Detroit enterprises, to be most impressed with the London edition of the *Free Press*. Mr. William Winter adds a chapter to his irregular contributions to American dramatic history by a sketch of Jefferson and his ancestry, which contains a hasty glimpse of the strollers of the Mississippi in early theatrical days in that region, and a delightful view of, and from, Jefferson's Louisiana manor. Dr. Ely continues his papers on the railroads, but with a lack of concentration and continuity which must greatly impair his effectiveness, and suggests to the reader that even the best-informed of young economists may reform the world quicker if he takes more time to it. There is also a curious article upon the captains of the transatlantic service, in which the writer allows himself considerable liberty of speech and personal comment. The portraits show a fine set of men.

—The *Atlantic* for August has two specially interesting American articles. One presents the Indian problem from the point of view of an army officer, and is of the nature of a protest, not so much against the humanitarian sentiment of the East as against the condition of affairs which results from its ascendency in the national policy. The difficulty in the case seems to be that this sentiment operates mainly in a negative way, and is summed up in the dictum, "Whatever happens, never hurt the poor Indian." The *modus operandi* of the Apache raids, and the immunity practically secured to the young braves engaged in them, are set forth in a startlingly simple statement: the Government appears as a conniver before the bloody pastime and a condoner after it; it gives neither protection to the settlers nor justice to the offenders. The author urges an Indian code, and the granting of land in severalty inalienable for ninety-nine years; otherwise, the Apache will continue to be a privileged criminal, a savage in the most blissful state of nature ever known—namely, that in which he fights with an enemy who, he is sure, will under no provocation "hurt" him if he is captured, but bid him go in peace to his Government rations until life grows tedious once more, and he repeats his festival of slaughter, plunder, and torture The second article is a very excellent sketch of "Domestic Economy in the Confederacy," with particular reference to North Carolina, which sets the daily privations of life under the blockade in a partly humorous, partly pitiable light. The lack of salt, leather, iron, coffee, sugar, etc., takes up most space; the "substitutes"—a word which keeps its place in the negro dialect as a synonym for all that is worthless—are described; there are some instructive paragraphs on speculators, country trade, and the currency—indeed, the whole field is covered with some detail. The author notes the extraordinary fact that, though the South became "a nation of Crusoes," and invention was taxed most thoroughly and persistently by the wants of nature and rudimentary civilization, the number of permanently useful inventions was insignificant. He ascribes this to Southern "incompletiveness."

—M. Edmond Stoullig, to whom all lovers of the stage are indebted for the active part taken by him in the publication of 'Les Annales du Théâtre et de la Musique,' is the director of the new *Revue d'Art dramatique*. This review, of which the first number appeared on January 1, 1886, has now completed its second volume; and if general excellence and utility can give it success, it is sure to keep a high place in periodical literature. It is a bi-monthly, and besides unusually good theatrical criticisms, and correspondences from London, Berlin, Brussels, etc., it contains articles of high literary worth from some of the first critics of Paris upon the æsthetic and historical side of the stage. Broad as its able director seeks to make it, the new review meets a want felt even in France, where theatrical criticism and discussion have always flourished. It is to be hoped that with its growing success it may become more international, and do on a larger scale what the Parisian reviewers have done for the French stage. But even in Paris the *lundistes*, as the Monday theatrical critics like Sarcey and Jules Lemaitre are called, are fast being replaced by *soiristes* or *lendemainistes*, who put together a few hasty remarks about a new play, written perhaps before the representation. A new medium for serious and well-pondered notices of stage events is, therefore, timely and acceptable. The aim of the *Revue d'Art dramatique*, if not higher than that of the weekly or bi-monthly reviews of MM. Sarcey, Gandarax, and others, is at least more comprehensive. The veteran critic, M. Francisque Sarcey, gave in the first numbers interesting articles under the title "L'Acteur," and he has continued since to give it the benefit of his experience. M. F. Lefranc wrote on "La Critique nouvelle," which he accuses of being over-indulgent. Several writers feeling personally hurt, M. H. de Lapommeraye answered in a tone scarcely courteous; arguing with much force that theatrical criticism should be rather encouraging and laudative than aggressive. M. Lefranc in subsequent articles has tried to carry out his own theories, notably in the one headed "1802," in which he shows himself relentless towards both Renan and Victor Hugo. There is much of general literary and historical interest in the *Revue*, of which less than half is devoted to current theatrical criticism. M. Georges Pellissier has instructive remarks upon the Shaksperian drama on the French stage. M. Léonce Person writes as only a specialist can on "Le véritable Saint Genest de Rotrou et le *Fingido Verdadero* de Lope de Vega." "Notre plus ancien Monologue" is a graceful chapter on mediæval literature. M. Charles Barthélemy writes about Mme. Deshoulières under the heading "Les Femmes auteurs dramatiques," in a way that shows his intention of making this only the first of a series. The unjust and very *chauvin* tone of the writer who spoke of Paul Lindau in the number of June 1 is the only thing that could be found fault with in the pages of the *Revue d'Art dramatique*.

—The report which recently appeared in several Italian journals, that Ferdinand Gregorovius, author of the 'History of the City of Rome in the Middle Ages,' was engaged in investigations among the archives of Southern Italy, for a forthcoming 'History of the Hohenstaufens,' is corrected by the Berlin *Börsencourier*, and the true object of these researches is made public. Gregorovius, it seems, is now at work upon a 'History of the City of Athens in the Middle Ages,' and in the prosecution of his studies has found it necessary to search the archives of Palermo, Naples, and other Italian cities for documents relating to Athenian history in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. It is understood that the author's design is to trace the for-

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tunes of Athens from the end of the fourth to the beginning of the sixteenth century, and to show that during this period, in which the name of the city alone seemed to survive, a mere shadow of bygone greatness, though no longer taking a leading part in the political or intellectual movements of the time, or exercising that far-reaching influence upon European civilization and culture which it was Rome's fortune to do, the history of Athens is very far from being devoid of interest and importance. It is not unlikely that some years may elapse before the completion of this work, but its appearance will be eagerly awaited by scholars, and it will undoubtedly prove to be a worthy companion to the 'History of Rome,' which is held in such high esteem that an Italian translation of it was published at the expense of the city of Rome, and procured for its author the honor of Roman citizenship, which was conferred upon him in 1876. The exceptional success of this work in Germany is shown by the fact that, though it is less than fifteen years since the publication of the concluding volume, a fourth edition is now in press. As a further evidence of the growing popularity of Gregorovius among general readers may be noted the announcement that a volume containing a collection of his minor historical writings will be issued in the course of the present year.

—Every lover of Alt-Heidelberg, whose heart will be by the Neckar during the festal days of the first week in August, will welcome the exquisitely printed and illustrated *Festchronik*, the "Ruperto-Carola," now appearing under the editorship of Karl Bartsch. It will be issued in twelve parts during this and the following month, and the sum of seven and a-half marks forwarded to the address of the publisher, Otto Petters of Heidelberg, will secure the regular sending of all the numbers as they appear. The reading matter will deal with the history of the university in the famous five centuries of its existence, offer sketches of prominent characters, and a full account of the doings of the anniversary week, while the illustrations from the hands of leading German artists will represent scenes from the progress of the festival, characters from the historical procession of August 6, portraits of distinguished alumni, and views of the city and environs. The celebration occupies the week from August 2 to 7. For the sober mind the chief interest will centre about the *Festakt* of Wednesday, when Kuno Fischer delivers the anniversary oration in the Heiliggeist Church. For the masses of the festival-makers, however, Friday will be the great day of the feast. The historical procession of this day has been most diligently planned, and will set forth with greatest exactness of arrangement and costuming scenes from the academic life of earlier days, and will be followed in the evening by a great and general *Commers*, the full import of which every one who has had experience in German university life will know how to value. The harmonious coöperation of otherwise conflicting elements in the University is a decided feature of the occasion, and augurs well for the success of the festival. For the first time in many years, the two opposing elements among the students, the *Corps* on the one hand and the *Burschenschaften* and various *Verbindungen* on the other, have united under a general students' committee, and the long-standing schism in the faculties, which manifested itself again unmistakably in the contest for the coveted prorectorship of this year of jubilee, has been, at least to outward appearances, closed by the magnanimous act of the successful candidate, the jurist Bekker, in surrendering the prime honor of the *Festrede* to his rival, Kuno Fischer.

—The Heidelberg historical procession of August 6th promises to be a most imposing pageant. It will consist of fourteen scenes or tableaus representing as many periods or phases in the life of the University. A decorated vehicle forms the centre of each tableau, and nine hundred persons and three hundred horses find place in the procession. The scenes are as follows: 1. The *founding of the University* under the Elector Ruprecht I. (1386). 2. Triumphal entry of Friedrich the Victorious after the battle of Seckenheim (1462). 3. Cultivation of the arts and sciences under the Elector Otto Heinrich (1556-59). 4. The Folk-life in the "fröhlich' Pfalz" at the close of the sixteenth century. Vintage festival. 5. *Entry of the Elector Friedrich V. with his* bride, Elizabeth of England (June 17, 1613). 6. Bohemian Embassy (1619). 7. Period of the Thirty Years' War (1618-48), and the war of the Orleanist succession (1688-97). 8. Elector Ludwig and train (1632-80). 9. Times of the Elector Karl Philipp (1716-42). Hunting train. 10. Elector Karl Theodor (1742-99). 11. Reëstablishment of the University by Karl Friedrich of Baden (1803). Student types of the nineteenth century are represented by the two following scenes: 12. The *Burschenschaften*. 13. The *Corps*. 14. The new German Empire. The whole has been planned and arranged under the direction of Prof. C. Hoff of the Art School at Karlsruhe.

—All that our latest work of reference, Thomas's revised 'Biographical Dictionary,' has to say about Count Leo Tolstoi is, that he belongs to the same family as another Tolstoi, and is the author of two novels. Many more particulars of his life are given in the introduction to Mr. Dole's translation of 'Anna Karénina,' and in Miss Hapgood's preface to 'Childhood.' Still later is a fourteen-page article in the July number of *Westermann's Monatshefte*, which is accompanied by a rather pleasing portrait, decidedly more prepossessing than the one prefixed to the last-mentioned translation. Though not holding the highest nominal rank, the Tolstois are one of the best Russian families. The present Minister of the Interior is a relative, and Alexei Tolstoi, the author of 'Fürst Serebrjany,' as the novel is termed in the German translation, was his cousin. Lyof Nikolayevitch Tolstoi was born in 1828. He was only two years old when his mother died, and nine at the death of his father. After three years of university study he retired to his estate at the age of eighteen. Early in the fifties he entered the army, and served through the Crimean war, but resigned when everything pointed to a successful military career. In 1862 he married the daughter of a Moscow physician of German origin, having shortly before become an enthusiast in the cause of education, and founded a model school on his estate. His first writings were also in this direction. He soon became widely known as a philanthropist, but this reputation gave way to the less enviable one of dreamer and mystic, due to his becoming absorbed, some eight years since, in religious studies. The newspaper story of his being insane at this time was without foundation. Tolstoi's first book, 'Childhood,' was published thirty-three years ago. This psychological (and autobiographical) tale was continued, in 1854, as 'Boyhood,' and in 1857 was finished as 'Years of Youth.' Four volumes of military tales followed in the years 1854-58; 'The Cossacks' in 1863. Other volumes published during these years dealt with serfdom and the life of the nobility. 'Domestic Happiness' was a longer and more ambitious tale, and shortly after his marriage he began work on what was to be a voluminous novel called the 'Dekabrists,' and dealing, as the name indicates, with the men and ideas of 1825. But further study made it seem desirable to begin further back, so that, instead of the 'Dekabrists,' we have 'War and Peace,' which breaks off on the eve of the conspiracy against the reaction that followed the overthrow of Napoleon.

—The *Nuova Antologia* for June 1 contains an interesting article on the old architectural monuments of Italy and the vexed question of their repair and restoration, by Camillo Boito (the brother of Arrigo, the composer of "Mefistofele"), a well-known professor of art and a practical architect. In a book published in 1880, 'Architettura del Medio Evo in Italia,' Boito had discussed the restorations of St. Mark's, the accusations of foreigners, the system pursued by the Austrians, the changes demanded, the immense practical difficulties of the work, and the impossibility of satisfying at the same time the conditions of stability, the requirements of the archæologist, and the desires of the mere lover of the picturesque. He shows that the practice of restoration has been gradually perfecting, and that things can be done now which seemed impossible a few years ago, and which still seem impossible to an old architect who has not kept up with the times. Even the precepts in such matters laid down by Viollet-Le-Duc have given way to others. The great French architect, who had and has a wide influence in Italy, said: "To restore an edifice is to *reëstablish it in a complete state, which may perhaps never have existed at any given moment.*' Now Boito recommends, and not only Boito, but the Third Congress of Engineers and Architects advises, and the Italian Government approves, the doctrine that "it is better to strengthen than to repair, better to repair than to restore, better to restore than to embellish; in no case is it right to destroy." Changes have already been made in the methods employed at St. Mark's. Not only is vastly greater care used in the work of repair and consolidation, but, among other things, the old mosaics, which had been preserved by the pious care of a subordinate, have been replaced in the vaults of the Cappella Zeno, and the modern copies done away with, and the retro-altar has been put back, which had been removed on the pretext of being a work of the sixteenth century. Boito's article, while rich in suggestions, barely touches on the rights of the general public in a building, as distinguished from those of archæologists and artists, and especially of the propriety of completing unfinished buildings, as, for example, the cathedrals of Cologne and Florence. Whether rightly or wrongly, the new front of the Duomo at Florence is finished, and will be uncovered in October, during the celebration of the fifth centenary of the birth of Donatello. Preparations are being made for a grand festival, in which the King and Queen will take part.

BANCROFT AND HITTELL ON CALIFORNIA.

History of the Pacific States of North America. By Hubert Howe Bancroft. Vol. xvi, California. Vol. iv, 1840-1845. San Francisco: A. L. Bancroft & Company. 1886. 8vo, pp. xv+786.

History of California. By Theodore H. Hittell. Volume ii. San Francisco: Pacific Press Publishing House, and Occidental Publishing Co. 1885. 8vo, pp. 823.

We have previously noticed the earlier volumes of both these works; but the present volumes tell us of more interesting events, and introduce us to graver crises in the early history of California.

Mr. Hittell's second volume closes with the admission of the State, and includes in its earlier portions the whole period of Mexican republican government in California. As before, Mr. Hittell's industrious reading and conscientious use of what he happens to regard as the authoritative

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sources of information, are plain. But this volume, even more than the previous one, shows the risks that his work runs, when compared with Mr. Bancroft's, by reason of the limited range and the frequently arbitrary choice of his authorities. Dana, Robinson, and De Mofras, he tell us (p. 289), are the persons from whom "the most of the reliable information in reference to the social life of the old Californians has to be derived." "The Californians," he continues, "were as a rule not educated; and those who could write were not authors." He then mentions the manuscript histories of Alvarado and Osio (whereof both himself and Bancroft possess and frequently cite copies), but declares the most important writings of the Californians to be, after all, the contents of the California Archives. "Of private letters and papers," he finally asserts, "few of any importance remain." The reader of Mr. Bancroft, accustomed to minute citations of the extensive collections of business letters, of family archives, and of mission records and correspondence in Mr. Bancroft's library, reads this meagre catalogue of authorities with surprise, and finds frequent occasion in Mr. Hittell's pages to distrust the critical judgment with which even these have for some purposes been used. The first half of this volume, in fact, based as it is alternately upon the elaborately cited archives and the extensively summarized Alvarado and Osio manuscripts, must be described as an imperfectly organized union of erudition and gossip, nearly always very readable, and seldom quite satisfactory. If Mr. Hittell could only have waited awhile, one says, and if he could only have read Mr. Bancroft! In his haste to be the first original investigator in the field, he has doomed himself to very serious imperfections; and yet he certainly has the ability to have made for himself, by waiting for a time, a place after Mr. Bancroft in order of publication, but not in the least beneath Mr. Bancroft in literary rank. As it is, this imperfect doing of original work that somebody else has the means to do far better, produces a melancholy impression of wasted effort, as the reader examines all the earlier chapters of this volume.

The test case in this part of the work is the history of Alvarado's political career. This young adventurer became prominent in the revolution of 1836. He represented better than any other man the self-consciousness of the little Californian community, and its desire for self-government. In particular, however, he represented the party of the north, viz., of the region from San Francisco and Monterey to Santa Barbara, in its struggle against the party of the south. Therefore, as a revolutionary leader, he had to play a double game, on the one hand against the Mexican authority, and on the other hand against his southern rivals. He played it very well indeed, especially when one considers that he was not yet thirty years of age at the outset, that he was quite innocent of the ways of the great world, and that he had little education, save what he had given himself. Such a career merits a large place in the history of Mexican California, and both Mr. Bancroft and Mr. Hittell are well aware of its significance. Mr. Hittell has to depend on the archives and the Alvarado and Osio manuscripts. But Alvarado had aged sadly and had degenerated seriously before he wrote his manuscript of reminiscences. He had neither the power nor in all cases the desire to tell the whole truth concerning some matters; and his contemporary letters, preserved in Mr. Bancroft's library, give far better evidence of his real ability as a leader than his own untrustworthy memory, after thirty years, could furnish. Bancroft's account of the revolution of 1836, with its consequences, is not too diffuse for the purposes of his work; but it fairly bristles with citations and quotations of the contemporary correspondence of Vallejo, Alvarado, and the other prominent leaders. One may, indeed, feel that few political movements, occurring under purely provincial conditions, have ever been so fully described as is here the case. The whole forms a really admirable study of human passion, intrigue, vacillation, and success. But Mr. Hittell's account is, by comparison, fragmentary, accidental, and disconnected. Important episodes, such as the appearance of Castillero as real or pretended Mexican Commissioner, together with Alvarado's intrigue with him, and the consequences of this whole matter for the subsequent history of the revolution, are imperfectly known to Mr. Hittell and in part misunderstood by him; so that one feels, in passing from his pages to those of Mr. Bancroft, that one is in the first case learning from a man who sees through a glass darkly, and in the other case from a man who does not indeed see quite face to face, but who does see a great deal very clearly, and who tells you very frankly just what his records fail to let him see. The Alvarado revolution is in fact one of the best narratives in Bancroft's work, so far as it has been published.

But, after all, it is the conquest history, as described by Mr. Hittell, that will so far most interest American readers. Bancroft's volume on this period is yet to appear, and Mr. Hittell is here the first in the field. The story of the conquest of California in 1846 is not altogether creditable to our nation. We had determined upon the Mexican war, but were in 1845 still uncertain how soon it would break out. Therefore the Secretary of the Navy in the Polk Cabinet, Mr. George Bancroft, instructed Commodore Sloat, commanding our fleet in the Pacific, to wait for news of the beginning of war, and then forthwith to seize upon the Californian ports, without, however, beginning hostilities against the inhabitants of the Department of California themselves, unless Sloat should find himself absolutely obliged to proceed to extremities. For the Californians were understood to be nearly defenceless, and quite alienated from the mother country. The seizure of their ports was to be represented to them as a necessity of our warfare against Mexico, their unkind ruler, and not as an act of enmity against themselves. They were to be for the time under our protection, so to speak, and were to be encouraged to observe a strict neutrality during the contest. This plan, perfectly obvious from the since published instructions that were sent to Sloat, was thwarted, in the sequel, by the operations of Capt. Frémont, who happened to be in the territory at the time, in command of a United States exploring party, consisting of well-armed surveyors and trappers. Under pretence of believing the American settlers in the Sacramento Valley to be in danger of assault from the authorities of California, Capt. Frémont incited these settlers to revolt, and thus so distracted the country that when Sloat, in pursuance of his instructions, appeared at Monterey, in July, 1846, the possibility of a friendly seizure of the territory, under the name of a rescue of the people from Mexican oppression, was past. Sloat himself soon gave over his command to Commodore Stockton, who, in company with Capt. Frémont, began a course of conduct such as later led to a revolt on the part of the Californians, and so to further bloodshed and to yet greater ill-feeling. The consequence of all this was that our Government, in the course of the affair, was made to appear before the native Californians in two inconsistent characters, viz., as a would-be friendly protector of the land from the Mexicans, and as a violent assailant of the peace of the country for our own private ends. The Californians never understood this double-dealing, and have never forgotten it, nor forgiven it.

This story of the conquest, which so far is a matter of public record, since Sloat's instructions and Capt. Frémont's aggression are both of them well-known things, furnishes a serious problem to the historical student. Capt. Frémont was understood by nearly everybody to be acting under orders from Washington; yet the same Cabinet which instructed him also ordered Sloat to conciliate the Californians. How was this double plan possible? Mr. Hittell feels the nature of this problem, although he deals with it as lightly as possible. What the precise instructions were which Lieut. Gillespie, bearer of Government despatches, brought and made known to Capt. Frémont at Klamath Lake on the occasion of their meeting in May, 1846, Mr. Hittell feels himself quite unable to say, and he very wisely refrains from the worthless conjectures which have been for years current in the books that have touched upon this affair. As to the consequences, however, Mr. Hittell, following the accounts of Capt. Frémont's purposes which the latter gave at the time to the settlers and to others, believes that the Captain, after the meeting with Gillespie, intended for the first only to begin a quarrel with the Californians, and then to return to the United States forthwith, in order to lay his case before the Government, and thereby to increase the difficulties of the diplomatic position of Mexico. Mr. Hittell even attributes to Capt. Frémont the same purpose before the meeting with Gillespie. "His actions," says Mr. Hittell (p. 419), "on any other supposition, would have to be regarded as unreasonable and absurd." That this endeavor to provoke the Californians to an assault upon the United States flag actually led to the "Bear Flag movement," *i. e.*, to the revolt of the American settlers, and to an attempt to secure the independence of the Territory under a new flag, and under a settlers' government, Mr. Hittell regards as an accident, neither foreseen nor desired by Capt. Frémont. The Captain, thinks Mr. Hittell, wanted to provoke a quarrel between the authorities and himself, without compromising the American Government any more than necessary. He used the settlers as his tools for accomplishing his purpose. But they went too far, raised the Bear Flag, and proclaimed independence. This, as tending to produce too much confusion, and as possibly hindering the seizure of the country by our forces when the Mexican war should break out, Capt. Frémont opposed. He therefore did his best to get control of the new movement, and after a time succeeded. Such seems to be Mr. Hittell's theory of Capt. Frémont's conduct. "Instead of being in any respect the author" of the Bear Flag movement, says Mr. Hittell (p. 443), "Capt. Frémont would have done anything to prevent such a project. It interfered with, and in fact defeated, his own project." He, namely, wanted the settlers merely to seize the most prominent men at Sonoma, and to bring them to his camp. Then Castro, the Commandante General at Monterey, might try to rescue the prisoners, and so the quarrel would be ripe, since Capt. Frémont could somehow make the Californians appear as the aggressors. Therefore no movement for independence was contemplated at the beginning by the Captain, whose purpose was to prepare the way for the Mexican war.

Such is Mr. Hittell's view of the motives of this remarkable affair, and certainly, if we only knew about the matter what the settler Ide tells us, in his deliciously naïve narrative, which his family have in later years published, and which Mr. Hittell has extensively cited, this theory would seem the only plausible one. There is good reason for believing, however, as we think, that from the beginning Capt. Frémont meant to go

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further than merely to provoke a quarrel and then return to the United States. At all events, from the very moment of the conclusion of the Bear Flag episode to the present day, Capt. Frémont and his friends have always represented the matter in a more significant light. For it was in any case to the young Captain's interest to present himself thenceforth to the world as the "conqueror of California," and his friends have always assured us that a well-founded dread of Californian hostility required him, in May, 1846, to take serious measures against Castro and the Californians; that the instructions brought by Gillespie authorized, if they did not command, some very vigorous action; that his own private letters from Senator Benton were to the same effect as concerning the purposes held at Washington; and that, in fine, the settlers of the Bear-Flag movement were merely carrying out, in a more or less bungling fashion, plans which the Captain had formed. According to this view, his announcement to the settlers at the beginning of the troubles that for his part he was going back to the United States, would appear to be only a device to excite them still more, or else to deceive the Californians. His disapproval of the Bear-Flag movement would seem to have extended only to such elements of the affair as threatened to carry it beyond his control. He would himself still appear as using the settlers for his tools, but he would be distinctly responsible for undertaking a revolution. And one must indeed say, as against Mr. Hittell and the Ide interpretation of the business, that unless Capt. Frémont understood, when he sent the settlers to Sonoma to seize the prisoners, what would result in the way of an independent movement, he must have been incredibly short-sighted. What were these settlers always boasting about and threatening, but a coming revolution? If Capt. Frémont encouraged them, by his mysterious words and by his reports of Californian hostility, to go down to Sonoma, after seizing the horses of the Arce party, and to take possession of the place, what did he expect them to do when they once got there but proclaim some sort of independence? Mr. Hittell is surely unfair in making Capt. Frémont so blind a man as to have begun the Bear-Flag affair without knowing any better what he was doing. He must have known, we think, that he was beginning a revolution, and that the only facts which could give the affair any sort of apparent justification would be the early outbreak of the Mexican war, the belief meanwhile of the settlers and of the Cabinet at Washington that the Californian authorities were actively and aggressively hostile, and the popular impression that he himself was acting under secret instructions from Washington.

Mr. Hittell is himself far enough from believing the old reports about the hostility of the Californians as a sufficient cause for Captain Frémont's outbreak. He is too well informed for that, and shows us plainly how defenceless the country was. Without making any special conjectures about the Gillespie instructions, however, Mr. Hittell seems still disposed to think it probable that they in some way authorized Captain Frémont's conduct (p. 421, "they were sufficient to induce Frémont to retrace his steps," etc.). As a fact, however, it is not the case that they authorized any aggression. So, at least, it appears from Bancroft's statement in the biographical sketch of Frémont ('Pioneer Register,' vol. iii, p. 748), and from the text of the Gillespie instructions, of which a considerable part has been now for the first time published, *verbatim*, by Mr. Bancroft, in vol. iv, p. 596, *seq.* While the full result of Mr. Bancroft's investigations of this topic has not yet been published, enough has already appeared in the third and fourth volumes to show that Mr. Hittell's account, with all its caution and intelligence, is in so far incomplete as he has been unable to see those documents, now in Mr. Bancroft's hands, which prove that the Frémont hostilities were as unauthorized and unprovoked as they were mischievous.

The fourth volume of Mr. Bancroft's history brings the account of the political situation down to the close of 1845; and the discussion of the foreign relations in 1845, as given in chapter xxv, throws a great deal of light on the condition of the various foreign schemes for the acquisition of California, and upon the behavior of the Californian authorities and of our settlers in the Sacramento valley towards one another, just before the crisis. We must advise any one who desires to know how much truth there was in the accounts later circulated of the violent hostility of the Californian Government towards our settlers, to read the facts carefully collected in this chapter. The Californians were not saints, but neither were they tyrants, nor yet altogether fools, and they did absolutely nothing to warrant Capt. Frémont's hostility in June, 1846; just as, on the other hand, the researches of Mr. Bancroft seem to have made sure that the Government which instructed Sloat in the fashion above described, certainly did not authorize Capt. Frémont's aggression by the Gillespie instructions, or by any other channel. The attack was simply his own choice and folly.

We have left no space for following Mr. Hittell's excellent account of the condition of the territory between the conquest and the admission of the State. The admission itself is, we must remark, a very arbitrary stopping-place for an historical work, and it may be hoped that Mr. Hittell will some day proceed further with his book. If he does so, may he recognize with greater generosity, and use in greater fulness, the researches of his contemporaries; for no historian can gain by blindly stubborn independence, or by ignoring fellow-students merely because their books are published at nearly the same time with his own. An index is, moreover, very seriously needed by Mr. Hittell's readers, and the book suffers severely for the lack of it. As for Mr. Bancroft, one can never forget, nor cease to regret, the fact that he is a composite person, and that his devoted collaborators ought to be prominently named. How much of authority, of dignity, and of genuine fame would be added to this truly noble monument of patient scholarship if the unwise resolution that still leaves the public in the dark about the actual division of the labor were to be frankly abandoned! Above all ought this to be the case in respect of the 'California,' by far the best of the whole series, both as to plan and as to workmanship. Whoever wrote any part of this book ought to be named on the title-page.

RECENT NOVELS.

Aspirations. By Helen Hays. Thos. Whittaker.

The Man Who Was Guilty. By Flora Haines Loughead. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Children of the Earth. By Annie Robertson Macfarlane. Henry Holt & Co.

Fellow Travellers: A Story. By Edward Fuller. Boston: Cupples, Upham & Co.

Who is Guilty? By Philip Woolf, M.D. Cassell & Co.

Marion's Faith. A Sequel to 'The Colonel's Daughter.' By Capt. Charles King, U.S.A. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

The Destruction of Gotham. By Joaquin Miller. Funk & Wagnalls.

A Moonlight Boy. By E. W. Howe. Boston: Ticknor & Co.

Marc le Nihiliste. Par Gontcharof. Traduit du russe et adapté par Eugène Gothi. Paris: Plon. 1886.

THERE is a perfunctory tone about Mrs. Hays's novel, a lack of earnestness and enthusiasm which—rather than the obvious skill of a practised writer—determine the attitude of the critical mind toward 'Aspirations.' It is one of the novels characterized, by the magazine writer in 'A Pair of Blue Eyes' as neither good enough nor bad enough for review. The story, characters, style, incidents are all commonplace, and yet not noticeable for being either lifelike or, on the other hand, unnatural; there is nothing that directly offends and nothing that greatly pleases, and in the end the reader's impression is bound to be one of dissatisfaction with the book and impatience with the writer.

The central thought, as the Sunday-school lesson sheets say, of Mrs. Loughead's novel is the nobleness of a man, essentially honest and high-minded, struggling to recover the consideration of his friends after serving a just sentence in the penitentiary. It is the history of one of those anomalies of complex imaginative natures which we are called upon now and then in real life to accept without explanation; and the chief error in Mrs. Longhead's handling of her story is attempting to explain away the incongruities of Philip King's career. There are natures—notwithstanding Balzac and George Eliot—that morally are above the laws of growth, that are much better or much worse than is made manifest by acts. Philip King was one whose nature was of this sort; and, in spite of the novelist's omniscience, he may not have been prompted to embezzlement by the idle words of a careless girl—the motives of one's acts are often beyond even one's own knowledge. As a story simply, 'The Man Who Was Guilty' is often dull entertainment. It is with no sudden éclat that a man can erase the stigma of ten years in prison, and there was nothing for Philip but a long, persistent, tedious struggle—often hopeless, frequently uninteresting in the recital. The strength of tradition, too, both in life and in novels, helps to prevent the story from being pleasant. Though one sees the hero free from moral degradation, one would much rather it transpired at the last that he never did it after all.

Miss Macfarlane has chosen well the materials of her story. The children of the earth to whom she introduces one are indeed not altogether indifferent; nor is it beyond doubt that they are happy in that they are not overhappy. But they are children of the earth, nevertheless, and appeal to the fellowship of mankind through weakness. Miss Macfarlane has chosen well by choosing little; there is but one thread to the story, and the material is exactly suited to spinning it. Vivien Langstreth, Brooks Eastman, and Ned Brownlow are not impossible people—they are even scarcely unique; but they are drawn with such decisive strokes, with an absence of superlative explanation and a presence of unobtrusive but intense feeling, as to make the little drama of their lives interesting and, in a general way, worthy. The case with Vivien, whose pitiful life is the one thread of the story, is entirely one of character, as it was with Philip King; not the artificial character of growth and accident, but the nature given her as a birthright—one much worse than her actions indicate. Miss Macfarlane has made no mistake by explaining; Vivien sees Ned go from her, giving her up to her nature, and waits for Eastman, her evil spirit, with gladness and involuntary song. She accepts her moral death almost deliberately; and though saved from its visible degradation by fate, she is nevertheless inwardly and spiritually subject to it. It is a sad story, and, perhaps, in particular ways, demoralizing; but it is well told. One grows impatient, however, with the author for postponing the final catastrophe, which, when it does arrive, is as near inevitable as anything short of actual tragedy can be.

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One is unpleasantly reminded of William Black in reading 'Fellow Travellers'—unpleasantly, because Mr. Fuller falls so far below the English novelist in attempting highly wrought descriptions, and associating the tense moods of his characters with the state of the weather. The story is very lacking in substance, full of the spirit that turns mole-hills into mountains, accurate as to streets and squares and the rules of etiquette in Salem, but unsuccessful with the rural New England dialect and in exciting the reader's interest.

In Mr. Woolf's tolerably ingenious but impossible story, the reader is mystified, along with clever detectives of both sexes and a susceptible old doctor and scientist, concerning the murderer of a man who committed suicide. What merit there is in sprightliness and unblushing disregard of probability, the book possesses.

'Marion's Faith' is a dashing military novel with a dashing military hero, full of the breezy Western prairies, Indian fighting, garrison intrigue, and good-natured banter. Mr. King is not a finished writer; he gallops through a paragraph as he would make a cavalry charge, careless of the way if he but get safely to his goal after driving his meaning home. Yet he manages, in his impetuous manner, to give one a very clear picture of army life, to make his characters alive with individuality, and bring them through the regulation amount of trouble to a happy ending. The tone is healthy and pleasant, like all of Mr. King's novels; 'Marion's Faith,' indeed, is a sequel to 'The Colonel's Daughter,' and one who has read the latter meets with many old acquaintances.

One can forgive Mr. Miller his extravagance, for his sincerity. 'The Destruction of Gotham' is the passionate protest of a simple and noble-minded man against the sin of the age—Dante's unredeemable sin—the contention for riches; and if a vicious literary style has led him away from simplicity of expression, his indignation at the sight of Plutus stalking the streets of New York has kept his enthusiasm at forging heat. Mr. Miller's case, of course, is hopeless: there is no chance for him when Ruskin and Carlyle have failed, nor for the highest preachers against the spirit of contention and competition; but his earnest pleading cannot be without some weight.

In the face of the claim made for Mr. Howe by his friends that 'A Moonlight Boy' was to be the best of his books thus far published, and was to receive his best efforts, it is somewhat surprising to see what a wandering, purposeless novel he has really written. The charm of his straightforward, homely style still remains; but the unusual elements of interest which made 'The Story of a Country Town' remarkable are wanting. One cannot help but see that Mr. Howe has made a mistake in laying the scene of his story partly in New York. He is more at home in his Western towns, with their illimitable prairies for a background, and the pathetic mixture of the limitations and advantages of their people for a theme, than in Bleecker Street and the Bowery. Besides the question of Mr. Howe's fitness for giving us life in New York, is the question of novelty. A glimpse of New York, in one aspect or another, is quite a common thing with American fiction in these times; while no one, until Mr. Howe, had given us the Western town—the towns between the Mississippi and the Rockies—without the glamour of border romance and extravagance. If Mr. Howe intends to insist on training with the naturalistic school, he must trust to his familiar surroundings for the materials of success.

'Marc le Nihiliste,' one of the newest of the new books, is an oldish one. We gather from the short, foolish, and every way unsatisfactory preface of the translator that it is of the date of Turgeneff's earlier writings; and this impression is confirmed by the tone of the story. But, old or new, it has the delightfulness at once of freshness and enduringness; and, spite of its having been evidently "adapted" by the translator to an (unavowedly) extraordinary extent (for it cannot be questioned that long and important chapters have been simply "dropped"), the broken portions he has been good enough to give us excite a deep interest and the liveliest enjoyment. The simple enjoyment belongs to the early pages; the interest deepens as the story progresses, and at moments it has too much of the painfulness which attaches to all true pictures of life for any light emotion to be excited by it.

The author is the author of 'Oblomoff,' and the same admirable quality of thoughtful observation which is the foundation of that tale exists in this. But this is altogether higher and nobler in character. To vigorous imagination and delicate humor Gontcharoff has here associated a lofty rectitude of tone, an uprightness of sentiment, sometimes gay, sometimes tragic, which is inexpressibly charming—and more than charming; it is consoling. The central *motif* of the book can only be rightly set forth by the book itself; the most difficult of social questions is treated with a justness and a compassionateness beyond praise. The principal figures are three sweet, tender, passionate women; and the representation first of their affectionate, mirthful household companionship, and, later, of the anguish of suffering felt for and with each other, is a picture exquisitely touched with great naturalness and great originality. It is worthy of a compatriot of Turgeneff and Tolstoi (what womanly women they must all have known!); but much of it, outside the woe of the central scenes, has a serious light-heartedness, so to say, to which we are unaccustomed in Russian literature, or in any other. There is a love scene between a simple young girl and her honest lover which is like the song of birds and the odor of flowers—and how much more *real* than the "realists" it is; while the desolating storms that sweep over her sister and her aunt are not less nature, not less true to human experience everywhere and always. All the scenes of this book are of a world of very real, very normal human emotions; but it is a world one would be glad to live in. Though fate is cruel and the cup of life is bitter there as elsewhere, to the persons of this story the result of moral struggle, of moral torture, is the power to endure bravely and generously; and Heaven rewards them by enabling them to forget as well as to forgive.

Flights Inside and Outside Paradise. By G. C. Pearson. G. P. Putnam's Sons.

"THE Penitent Peri" who of old wrote of his "Flights" inside and outside "Paradise" in the *Japan Herald* of Yokohama, has collected his revelations of things heard and seen into a dainty summer book of less than three hundred pages. The Paradise in which he and his boon companions revelled is the country so long yclept by its inhabitants, in all seriousness, the "Land of the Gods." Sundry exiled Bohemians have diligently striven, in American newspapers, to keep up this impression abroad long after the enlightened natives have discarded both name and idea. One has but to re-read the correspondence which from 1869 to 1875 ran through the *Tribune*, overflowed into the magazines, reappeared in the amazing *Atlantic Monthly* article, "The Martyrdom of a Nation," and in 'Japanese Episodes,' to trace a long-sustained effort to teach polemically as a sober fact what here the "Penitent Peri" treats as amusing fiction. The same pen, we suspect, now dominates the *Japan Mail*, which still laboriously endeavors to prove that "the trail of the serpent," so visible in Europe and America, is somehow absent from "fair Japan."

In the little book before us, the author, with infinite jest and unfailing good-nature, pictures things as they are. He made many excursions into the country back from the treaty-ports. Nature, as contrasted with the "civilization" imported yesterday, rules beyond the shadows of the ships; and this, without a trace of guide-book or a hackneyed phrase, the pilgrim describes. Every page is gay with the prismatics of fancy, and the whole narrative is shot through and through with the subtle wit of the thorough man of the world. He treats of men, manners and customs, art and morals, diet and clothes—or the lack of them. He tells us of Japanese meals, baths, hotels, modes of travelling, and ways of living and thinking, spicing his story with moving incidents of personal adventure. His humor is rather too broad for the fastidious. He tells a good many things, and in a way, too, that a missionary would not relate. These explain, however, only too well, why "fair Japan" is such a Paradise to unmarried young men, or husbands not too rigid (*katai*, the Japanese would say) in their notions. His minute, almost photographic, observations will probably explain why a certain class of emigrants from Christendom are needed in the once "holy country," and their labors are robbing the islands of their old-time attractions. Humdrum morality and whole suits of clothes are alike fashionable, and already the Japan Paradise pictured by our author seems to belong to ancient history. Churches and school-houses are ruining the former "Paradise."

Most laughable are the well-told experiences with chop-sticks, sliced raw fish, snails, and the nameless messes of the native cooks. The trivial details of life in a native hotel, meals, baths, beds and their tenants, are given with the pains and fidelity of a Dutch artist, but with the subtle wit and eye for the ludicrous possessed by a Zamacoïs. To home readers seeking for the truths about travel in Japan, and to old residents returned to home comforts, this unique book will afford a long hour or two of fun. The last three of the seven "flights," dealing with experiences in Italy and Asia Minor, are in the same vein of keen observation and mildly cynical philosophy. Several capital stories heard from subjects of the Mikado are finely rendered into English, and adorn the text. That of the two misers (p. 161), and of "A Woman's Hate" (p. 209), are not only well told, but in details are faithful pictures of life in this fascinating country. The book is rightly dedicated to Hoffman Atkinson, the accomplished author of 'Exercises in the Yokohama Dialect,' whose mastery of "pidgin English," combined with the power of transferring it to cold print, have made so much merriment for quondam dwellers in Old Japan.

The Rear-Guard of the Revolution. By Edmund Kirke. D. Appleton & Co. 1886.

THE author of this work is more fortunate in his title than in his preface, which is misleading. In it he says, "The materials for the following history were principally gathered from old settlers during a recent residence of some length in East Tennessee and Western North Carolina. Several of these were descendants of characters who appear in the narrative, and one of them was . . . Dr. J. G. M. Ramsey of Knoxville, the venerable author of the 'Annals of Tennessee.'" This leaves the impression that the author has made use of much original material. In fact, however, the bulk of the work is taken from Dr. Ramsey's 'Annals of Tennessee' rather than from his conversation or that of any one else. Mr. Kirke says that Dr. Ramsey "proposed that I should write out a full and connected history of the

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early settlers beyond the mountains." What this means no one who has read Dr. Ramsey's book can understand. He would certainly have heard with surprise that his own was not a work of this description. The book under review is unfortunately very far from supplying his deficiencies.

If Mr. Kirke's history contains anything not already accessible in book form, a careful perusal has enabled us to overlook it. Haywood's two works, Dr. Ramsey's 'Annals of Tennessee,' Draper's 'King's Mountain and its Heroes,' Monette's 'Valley of the Mississippi,' and the State histories ordinarily found in the library of every student of Southern history, furnish every fact of any importance in Mr. Kirke's book. This, however, does not destroy its value as a pleasantly written narrative of a series of stirring events which had a marked influence on the history of this country. The author has drawn a graphic picture of the British schemes to use the Indians of Western North Carolina and Virginia for the purpose of creating a diversion in the rear, while themselves making fierce onslaughts on the front of the Continental Confederacy. The frustration of these designs by the Western pioneers, the successive blows that broke the strength and spirit of the Indians, and the gradual revival of the American Cause, culminating in the victory of King's Mountain, are well described, and give the book a coherency that makes it a real contribution to Tennessee history.

The author's style is clear and flowing. Its real charm is too often dissipated by sententious reflections that better become the pedagogue than the historian. He is also slovenly at times, as when he says "hitherto mentioned" for "heretofore mentioned." We waive discussion of the point of literary propriety involved in using a fictitious name in historical compositions.

The Peace of Utrecht: A historical review of the great treaty of 1713-14, and of the principal events of the War of the Spanish Succession. By James W. Gerard. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 8vo, pp. 420.

THE opening chapters of Mr. Gerard's 'Peace of Utrecht' are by no means the best. They contain introductory matter upon the balance of power, the reign of Louis XIV., religious intolerance, etc.—all important subjects, and appropriate to the work, but treated in a manner somewhat deficient in force and directness. The author is much better when he gets to his subject, which he handles clearly, with cogency and in an interesting style. The diplomatic portion of the volume—the question of the Succession; the intrigues before and after the death of Charles II., the efforts during the war to agree upon terms of compromise, and the final negotiations at Utrecht—these, which form the real subject of the volume, are discussed fully and very well, while the brief sketch of military operations, and the more elaborate account of the political changes in England, from which so much resulted, receive satisfactory treatment. We are surprised not to find the full text of the treaty itself, which, even if long, would appropriately have a place in a volume like this.

The question of the succession in Spain is a very peculiar one, and one which we have seldom seen stated clearly. It rests upon the fact that both Philip III. and Philip IV. had each one son and two daughters; and that in each case the elder daughter married the King of France (Louis XIII. and Louis XIV.), and the younger daughter the Emperor (Ferdinand III. and Leopold I.); that in each case the elder daughter renounced her right of succession in the fullest and most formal manner, so that the issue of the younger daughter in each case by right received preference. Thus Joseph Ferdinand, the Electoral Prince of Bavaria, the son of the younger daughter of Philip IV., justly received the inheritance by the will of Charles II., and, upon his untimely death, the succession by right belonged to the Emperor Leopold, son of the younger daughter of Philip III., who transferred his claim to his own younger son, the Archduke Charles, in order that the imperial crown and the crown of Spain might not rest upon the same head. Mr. Gerard is one of the few writers who have made plain the relations of the parties and their respective claims; but he would have done well to illustrate it by a genealogical table. That in spite of the two-fold renunciation of the French queens, the succession was given to the French heir by the final will of Charles II., and secured to him as the result of a war in which his armies were beaten at every turn, is a curious illustration at once of the strange turns which affairs take, and of the impossibility of controlling national and dynastic needs by personal bargains and promises.

It is not always easy to decide in just what form to use foreign names, and Mr. Gerard says in his preface that he has not found it practicable, and therefore has not tried, to be consistent. We will not therefore criticise such French forms as Limbourg and Gueldres; but how can he justify the use of the French term (misspelt) "*Comptés* of Holland," etc. (p. 5), or the curious mixture, Joanna la Folle? On page 59 the *Marys* and *Marias* are curiously mixed up. On page 234 we find *Mentz* for *Metz*. On page 7 the circles of Germany are said to have been established "for purposes of protection and concord among themselves," but we do not understand this to have been their object: they were simply judicial circuits, with no political functions.

There is an "historical map, showing Holland and the Low Countries and the French frontier about the year 1697, partially taken from a map prepared by H. Jaillot for the Duke of Burgundy." Any correct historical map is interesting and valuable, and this will be of service for understanding the military events described in the volume. But we do not see that it illustrates the main subject of the work. A map of western Europe, or rather a series of them (on a small scale), giving, with colored lines, the boundaries proposed by the several treaties of partition, and those finally agreed upon, would have been really to the purpose.

Judge Richard Reid. A Biography. By Elizabeth Jameson Reid. Cincinnati Publishing Co. 1886.

JUDGE REID was the Kentucky gentleman who suffered a brutal and cowardly assault from one Cornelison, in consequence of a judicial decision (which, however, was wrongly attributed to him), and who refused to take vengeance in the approved fashion by shouldering his shotgun and gathering his clan. As a lawyer and a Christian he left his vindication to the State and Church; but within a short time he was found dead one morning, and the coronor's verdict was suicide. The case, which happened two years ago, will be readily recalled, because of its singularity in the annals of Kentucky justice. Of Judge Reid's life there was little to tell; it was the uneventful career of a scholarly boy, a practising lawyer, a judge of the Superior Court at forty-five years of age; a man of unusual education, literary tastes, humanity, a devout Christian, a kind husband and father, of inexhaustible hospitality, the centre of many excellent social influences, rich in friends and in their respect. That is what the biography amounts to. It was only the end of this life that made it known to more than his own community. He was invited to a business conference in a secluded place, given a document to read, and then struck from behind, beaten with a cane, and, on his escaping into the street, the assailant pursued him with a cowhide. This is the fact with which most of this large volume is concerned. What would Judge Reid do? He could shoot or mob the offender; or he could follow the unprecedented course of defying old custom, and leave the criminal to the constituted authorities. The matter was complicated by the fact that he was canvassing for a new term as judge, and to go contrary to public opinion and common prejudice might defeat him. This means that his fellow-citizens might have voted him a coward. He took his course, and set the State a conspicuous example of respect for the institutions of civilization. The discussion of his decision on the stump and in the papers was a practical education in reverence for the laws, of no inconsiderable value; and was useful also in that it compelled men of position and influence, who were his supporters, to make public their approval of his forbearance and his silent appeal to society as it is organized in courts.

But it is difficult to realize the nature of the social contempt he braved. One of the curious things in this volume is the repeated insisting on the fact that the offender owes his life to Judge Reid, that he could have been killed at almost any time without any danger of anybody's being called to account for it, and so on. Judge Reid's adopted son, who is a well brought up, dutiful, and Christian youth, writes from Princeton College: "A wrong done a family can only be righted by a member of the family," and begs his mother to call him home in case of "farther need." The niece in California writes: "I could kill him with far less compunction than I could shoot a dog." *Many*, it is said, offered to go with Judge Reid and stand by him, nor need he "soil his own hands—mere connivance would insure his revenge." From four quarters offers to mob Cornelison were sent to Mrs. Reid, during her husband's absence. Another very curious thing is the part played by the church. Cornelison was a fellow-member with Judge Reid, and had it not been for this fact he would have used "other means"—that is, he would have shot instead of beating him, which seems an odd instance of Christian fraternity. Furthermore, Cornelison did not attend church previous to the assault, "lest Judge Reid should break the loaf." The most extraordinary thing in the religious history of the case, however, is the plea made by an elder in favor of Cornelison, whose father-in-law was a minister and had "influence," to the effect that "the son-in-law might in due time repent, but that he could not repent until he had completed his published defence"! Under these circumstances it took some weeks to expel Cornelison from the church, but it was done at last. In fact, were it not for the large number of letters here printed, which express sympathy for the Judge and support him in his stand, from lawyers, clergymen, teachers, and other citizens, one would think that the state of morals on the subject of murder in Kentucky was the same as among the Apaches.

Judge Reid, by his choice, became the centre and head of the civilized sentiment of the State, and respect for him is continually increased in view of his temptation to do the easy thing, his opportunity for common revenge, and his sensitiveness to opinion affecting his personal reputation. Whether he broke down under the weight of his trial, or whether his brain was permanently injured by the blows he had received, or whether he did in fact commit suicide—for this is not admitted by the family—he died by a pistol-shot before his canvass was completed. This gave new emphasis to the case. The tragic end, the eminent character of the victim, and the atrocious nature of the assault, combined to

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make a moral object-lesson where it was much needed. Many will hope that the death of Judge Reid marks a step of progress in the public morals of Kentucky; there, at least, he ought to be long remembered. Cornelison was condemned to three years' imprisonment, but the sentence is still before the appellate court. It is a sign of public feeling that six of the jurors voted to give him twenty years.

A Chronicle, together with a Little Romance regarding Rudolf and Jacob Näf, of Frankford, Pennsylvania, and their Descendants, including an Account of the Neffs in Switzerland and America. By Elizabeth Clifford Neff. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co. 1886. 8vo, pp. 351.

WITH every inclination to deal gently with a book devoted entirely to family history, published not for gain but for the gratification of a small circle, it is impossible to give any praise to this volume, beyond that due to the evident zeal of the author. The style is turgid, the general arrangement confused, and the genealogical tables are on a system elsewhere unknown and utterly incomprehensible. We dimly discern that Rudolf and Jacob Naf or Neff are supposed to have come from Switzerland, and that there are many other Neffs here, descended from others of the name. The book is a magazine of facts, but it needs to be reëdited before any one can use it.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Adams, O. F. July. [Through the Year with the Poets.) Boston: D. Lothrop & Co.
Allan, W. Life and Work of John McDonogh, with Sketch of the McDonogh School. Baltimore: Published by the Trustees.
Barbey d'Aurevilly, J. Sensations d'Art. Paris: Frinzine; Boston: Schoenhof.
Bishop, W. H. Choy Susan, and Other Stories. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 50 cents.
Bonnières, Robert de. Mémoires d'aujourd'hui. Deuxième série. Paris: Ollendorf; Boston: Schoenhof.
Clarens, Jean-Paul. Ecrivains et Penseurs. Paris: Ollendorff; Boston: Schoenhof.
Corbett, J. The Fall of Asgard. Harper & Brothers. 25 cents.
Gilliam, Dr. C. F. Love and Medicine: A Novel. Washington: Gray & Clarkson.
Ginisty, Paul. L'Année littéraire 1885. Paris: Giraud; Boston: Schoenhof.
Hemiup, Maria R. Law of Heat. Geneva, N. Y.: *Gazette* Press.
Jackson, Helen. Ramona. Autorisierte deutsche Bearbeitung von Elizabeth H. Denio. Leipzig: Georg Böhme.
Johnson, S. Rasselas, Prince of Abyssinia. Edited, with Notes, for Schools. Boston: Ginn & Co. 40 cents.
Larison, Dr. C. W. Geografy: A Text-buk in Fonic Orthografy. Ringos, N. J.: Fonic Publishin Hous.
Lumry, O. F. National Suicide and its Prevention. Chicago: G. F. Crane. 50 cents.
Merrylees, J. Carlsbad and its Environs, with a Medical Treatise on the Use of the Waters, by B. Loudon, M. D. Charles Scribner's Sons. $2.50.
O'Conor, W. A. History of the Irish People. 2d ed. London: John Heywood.
Smith, Mary P. W. Miss Ellis's Mission. Boston: American Unitarian Association.

MESSRS. HENRY HOLT & CO.'S NEW EDUCATIONAL CATALOGUE will be sent free to any applicant. 29 West 23d St., New York.

NEW FRENCH BOOKS.

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La Perrière. Confidences d'une Modiste	1.25	Besobrasof. Etudes sur l'Economie Nationale de la Russie	3.20
Métenier. La Grâce	1.05	Rosny. Les Antilles	3.50
Tolstoi. La Mort d'Ivan Lutch	1.50	Pourret. Dictionnaire Etymologique	1.05
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